FIMES



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ALBUMS OF THE YEAR

David Sinclair and Caitlin Moran draw up their Christmas lists PAGE 37



BLUE VELVET

Meet Ruud Gullit MAGAZINE



Blair offers Adams choice of history



They've gone. We can

BY MARTIN PLETCHER AND NICHOLAS WATT

TONY BLAIR looked Gerry Adams directly in the eye at 10 Downing Street yesterday and offered him a "choice of history" - violence and despair or peace and progress.

The first Prime Minister for 76 years to play host to an Irish republican leader. Mr Blair said: "It is important that you remain committed to peaceful means. If we were to slip back, I believe we would slip back to something worse than what came before."

Mr Adams duly recommitted himself to the principles of democracy and non-violence, but for his part told Mr Blair that "all the hurt and grief and division which has come from British involvement in Irish affairs has to end".

The 55-minute encounter was long on symbolism, short on substance, but rich in drama and historical overtones. The meeting took place in the Cabinet room where Lloyd George and Michael Collins, father of the IRA, negoriated the treaty that formalised Ireland's partition in 1921. And it was the same room that was the target of three IRA mortar bombs in 1991.

The meeting began with the seven members of the Sinn Fein delegation shaking hands with the seven British officials. A Sinn Fein spokesman said first names were used,

said that there had been a real engagement that went beyond chanting mantras and slogans".

Addressing the world's media on the steps of Number Ten, Mr Adams called the meeting "a mo-ment in history". There had been many bad episodes in Irish history but this was a good one, he said. "I think we engaged."

A Sinn Fein spokesman added

that his party's delegation had touched on the normal issues, such as prisoners and demilitarisation. It had reiterated its demand for a new Bloody Sunday inquiry, but "this was more about trying to get beyond the details of negotiations and engage at a personal level, and I we were successful in that

as relaxed and cordial.

Downing Street said that it had been constructive and positive. Mr Blair had emphasised that there could be no constitutional change in Northern Ireland without majority consent, and that Sinn Fein would be ejected from the Stormont peace

talks if the IRA returned to violence. The one sour note occured earlier in the day when Mr Adams told a radio interviewer that he wished Liam Averill, the IRA prisoner who escaped from the Maze prison on Wednesday night, good luck. Mo Mowlam, the Northern Ireland Secretary, told him the comment was "not helpful". A Sinn Fein official privately admitted that the

The Sinn Fein delegation arrived at 1.40pm to find rival crowds gathered at the entrance to Downing Street to cheer and jeer them as they walked up to No 10. There were cries of "murderers" and "New Labour, new traitors".

Rita Restorick, the mother of the last British soldier killed in Northem Ireland, thrust a Christmas card containing a photograph of her dead son into Mr Adams' hand and said she hoped he was sincere about peace. Mr Adams said he hoped the negotiations would make the suffering of people like her part of "our painful history

Mr Blair defended the meeting

every risk it can" to secure peace. but Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, accused the Prime Munister and Mr Adams of "dancing on the grave of the Ulster dead". He said: "God help this country when its leaders are prepared to stoop so low in order to attain a moment of two of peace which will soon be shattered by a

colossal IRA bomb". As Mr Adams walked away he waved to demonstrators in Whitehall and punched the air. With a taboo broken. Downing Street predicted further meetings.

> Jeers and cheers, page 9 Leading article, page 23

Queen bids sad farewell to old family friend

THE QUEEN'S eyes were glassy, and she appeared to struggle to contain her emo-The Princess Royal dabbed her eyes with a white handkerchief, and the Prince of Wales shook his head. The Royal Family, schooled in the

In the gathering gloom and biting wind of a December afternoon at South Railway jetty in Portsmouth harbour, the Queen and many other watched as, after 43 years and 334 days in commission, the Royal Yacht Britannia was paid off into a retirement that will be somewhat less glorious than her naval service.

For the Royal Family, it was a difficult parting, forced on them by rising costs and a tide of opinion moving towards a much leaner Monarchy. As the Oucen descended the gang



The Princess Royal in naval uniform

plank for the last time, she walked briskly as if not wishing to prolong the unhappy moment, but she bit her lip as she threw the yacht a final brief backward glance.

Britannia's final moment as the most familiar and immacart of stoicism even in grief ulate vessel in the fleet came found it particularly fart shortly after 3.30, as the yesterday to aid seen beginnings of a pale winter old, theor, and unsted friend. sunset fought through threatening rain clouds. Her last commanding officer, Commodore Anthony Morrow, stepped forward on the dock side. stood to attention, and saluted his ship and its 19 officers and 217 Royal Yachtsmen lined along its three decks.

The chill breeze tugged at the vessel's flags, and blew up the sailors' collars in Mexican waves. One yachtsman, at attention on the top rail, lost his hat. The band of the Royal Marines marched up and down the dockside, beating retreat as they have done before the Queen on so many oreign quays.

As the notes of Sunset choed from the bugles, Britannia's flags were slowly lowered in unison: the Union flags at the jackstaff and mizzenmast, the Lord High Admiral's flag at the foremast, and the white ensign at the

From that moment, Britannia was a decommissioned ship. Only the Royal Standard remained briefly flying at the main mast, to indicate that the Queen, although she had stepped ashore for the last time, was still on the dockside to watch the painful process of



The Queen, flanked by her eldest son and her husband, dabbing her eyes at the formal decommissioning service for her yacht Britannia in Portsmouth harbour yesterday

royal duty in preparation for life as a tourist attraction in People's Britain.

Britannia herself might have preferred to creep away quietly to prepare for her second career in Manchester or Edinburgh, but it was not to be. The Queen went on board for a buffet lunch and to say farewell to the crew. She was accompanied by a large con-tingent of her family, including the Duke of Edinburgh, the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York, the Princess Royal, Prince Edward, with his girlfriend Sophie Rhys Jones, the Duke of Kent, the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester and

Princess Alexandra. All who were entitled wore naval uniform, including the

her vessel being released from of Women in the Royal Navy, and her husband, Captain Timothy Laurence, whom she outranks. The Oueen wore red wool, Prince Edward a plain grey suit, and the Princess Royal's son, Peter Phillips, a

bomber jacket. The ceremony was also watched by 2,200 former officers and yachtsmen who had served in Britannia and their families. Many of them, too. shed a tear at the going of a vessel to which they were greatly attached. In a message distributed to all past and present crew, the Queen said they had provided "magnificent support" to the Royal Family.

The Queen ended her message with a hint of her own feelings: "It is with sadness

to Britannia. It is appropriate that with this final event, she bows out in the style which is so typical of the manner in which her business has al-

ways been conducted." Crewmen and families also joined in a short and moving religious service on the quay side, with prayers for the vessel and all who had served in her, and the singing of hymns — including the last verse of that which sends a shiver down the spine of any seafarer, "Eternal Father, strong to save, whose hand

doth still the restless wave" As the Royal Marines band marched off playing Hearts Of Oak, A Life On The Ocean Wave, and Auld Lang Syne. the crowd broke into applause. But the Queen and

party looked almost desolate. The Queen recovered her composure with great speed, however, as the proceedings took on a note of complete informality. Royal Family members mixed freely with the crowds, smiling, chatting, and posing for photographs. Deprived of her yacht, the Queen went behind the dock into Number One Oil Lubricating

men's families The end of Britannia's naval career is not as ignominious as that of one of her Albert III. She was last used in royal service in 1939, spent the war as a depot ship in Portsmouth harbour, and was finally broken up at Faslane on

Much more spirited was the

end that befell the previous Britannia, built as a racing yacht for the future Edward VII. and inherited by his son, George V. She won 231 races and, by the terms of King George's will, was towed to a spot off the Isle of Wight.

where she was gloriously and ceremoniously scuttled. Her present-day namesake will shortly creep away to an obscure corner of Portsmouth harbour to have her stores and valuables removed before she is handed over to the people.



South Korea's financial crisis sent shock waves around the world as investors speculated that its economy could be near to insolvency ____ Pages 27. 29

Seoul crisis

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Labour's rebels threaten second protest over cuts

By JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

threatened to stage a second revolt over benefit cuts as the Government drew back from taking strong disciplinary measures against Wednesday night's rebels.

Tony Blair and Nick Brown. the Chief Whip, decided not to confront the 47 Labour MPs who voted against the Government on measures to cut lone parent benefit. They ruled out any suspensions and said most MPs would merely get a dressing down" with a warning about future behaviour. Three MPs, Brian

John Marek are expected to be reported to the NEC but no further action is likely. The size of the revolt stunned the leadership and made severe punishment impossible. One minister and

Sedgemore, Bob Wareing and

four ministerial aides had resigned over the issue. Some rebels, buoyed by the strength of the revolt and sensing that they had escaped more punitive measures. threatened further disruption. They rallied round a warning given by Lord Ashley, joint chairman of the Parliamentary all-party disablement group, that if the Government went shead with taxing or means-testing disability benefit last night's rebellion would look tame in comparison. Such cuts are being studied as part of the comprehensive

spending review.

David Winnick, MP for Walsali North, who defied the. Government on Wednesday said yesterday: "Many of us are determined to defend the welfare state." The rebels were far from being repentant, he said, claiming that any changes over disability pay-ments would meet with a far greater revolt than last night". Other rebels agreed that the

lone parent revolt was a "warning shot" to signal widespread unease among the parliamentary party about any measures which would penalise the poor. While the Prime Minister

stood by the lone parent cuts party strategists conceded that many MPs had supported the Government with a heavy heart. Several MPs said that if it had been put to a free vote the rebels would have won. There was concern that any

precipitative action by the whips could have increased the sense of anger and could have resulted in loyal MPs

breaking away. Mr Brown is now calling in all the 47 MPs who voted against the Government to see him or one of the other whips They will be given a "verbal warning" or "yellow card" with the threat that if they continue to oppose the Government stronger action will be taken. The thirty or so MPs who abstained are not expected to be called in.

The three MPs who could face further disciplinary action have been singled out because they have persistently spoken out against the Governnment or have already been given a warning about their behaviour.

Yesterday the Prime Minister emphasised that MPs had been "elected as new Labour and would now govern as new Labour" and that the welfareto work programme had been an integral part of the

> Leading article and Letters, page 23

Scent of scandal as First Lady is ejected

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

A MUSTY former gentle-man's club on Fifth Avenue. which only recently admitted women, was licking its wounds yesterday after a over-eager attendant threw out Hillary Clinton for breaking the house rules by spraying on perfume.

Unfortunately for the venerable University Club, Mrs Clinton was in the company of Cindy Adams, the self-styled "First Lady of New York Gossip" who reported the incident in her column. Mrs Clinton visited the club

on Wednesday to make a speech to a \$1,000-a-plate lunch organised by the Women's Leadership Forum of the Democratic National Committee while her husband was out Christmas shopping in New York. After her speech. Mrs Clinton then withdrew into a cavernous club-room with leather chairs, where she encountered the irrepressible

Mrs Adams, an old acquain-

The gossip columnist had already provoked the wrath of one of the club's elderly attendants by trying to use her mobile phone to inform her editors that she was running

late. When she tried to show Mrs Clinton a sample of her new fragrance, brand-named "Gossip", the attendant drew

. No sooner had Mrs Clinton sprayed on some of the perfume, than he intervened. This is not permitted," he said. "We have rules here. We will not tolerate this." Mrs Adams informed the

guard that he was talking to the First Lady of the United States, but he was oblivious: "This is not acceptable behav-iour. You will have to leave," Mrs Clinton stood up abruptly and declared: "Let's go." Members expressed dis-

may about the club's dubious hospitality. although some were gratified that clubroom etiquette had been upheld. The White House described Mrs Adams's version of events as "overblown." The University Club, found-

ed in 1899 by graduates of Columbia, Harvard and Yale, was a men-only institution until forced by a landmark court ruling to admit women in 1987. The club's manage ment refused to comment because that is also against



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Victory over backbench rebels marks beginning of Blair's reign

often the most recent battle - when we should be remembering the last but one. We watch the Labour whips rocked back on their heels at the force and suddenness of Wednesday's rebellion, and we recall the last times "Government hit by backbench rebellion" regularly filled the front pages.

It was during John Major's Premiership, and most often over Europe - although other mutinies too lover VAT on fuel for instance) nibbled away at his authority. At first the rebellions seemed containable. but each undermined the whips' discipline further.

relation hips within the party. By the end, Mr Major's leadership itself had been discredited by the internecine warring. and he fell - though to the electorate: never quite to his Tory challengers.

"Ah." we say, noting Mr Blair's first big brush with backbench insurrection. "that's how it all started for the last Government too. It's downhill from here." We assume that one rebellion must be precursor to the next; each one worse than the last, just as it was for Major.

And we forget the one that went before. But Tony Blair does not forget; indeed I think

the history of that battle is the Prime Minister's and his Chancellor's text. For Margaret Thatcher and Geoffrey Howe, her first Chancellor. the early insurrections were not the beginning of the end. They were the beginning of the beginning. That was the time she stamped her authority on her party. That was the time she saw off a growing chall-enge from the Tory Left. That was when she beat the Wets. That was the time and those were the battles which ushered in a half decade when she carried all before her.

I remember those early mutinies. I was part of one or two of them. I rebelled on the



assisted places scheme -- there employ: that the proposed were only a couple of us. I rebelled on the cuts to funding of school transport, causing many parents to lose their right to free bus trips for their children. There were more of us in that rebellion. And I remember an incipient mutiny on 5 per cent cuts to welfare benefits which rumbled - and

was successfully headed off. Our argument was always the same, and it is the argument Labour's rebels now

saving was modest, the hurt to the affected was cruel, and the bad publicity immense. Why look hard hearted for the sake of a lew pence? The expression "candle end economies", used derisively, was very fashionable at the time.

The whips' reply was al-ways the same too: part of it spoken, part of it implied. Explicitly they pointed out that holding the line always involves little meannesses along.

they had it that a reputation for hard headedness was actualiy an asset and not to be shied away from. And they translated this hard headedness into terms even we back benchers could understand. Rebels were punished by exile (though not forever) from government positions.

We had not thought it would be like that. Plotting in the Commons tea room we had romantic notions of where our courage might lead. We thought we might win the argument. We were wrong. We thought our small shows of solidarity (backed as they always were, by a much larger

would grumble but toe the line) would impress upon the whips and the Prime Minister the need to moderate the tone and perhaps alter the direction of government. We were wrong. She took no notice.

And we thought that, however angry the Chief Whip might be over the inconvenience we caused him, he and his Prime Minister would privately respect us for our willingness to stand up for ourselves. Few of us actually believed we were harming our long-term career prospects. Some even thought a little early rebellion might be a

smart career move.

Mrs Thatcher required obedience, respected most those who complied best, and rewarded them. It was as simpleas that. She won: We lost. The penny began to drop. The threat from the Wets began to recede as the younger and more ambitious realised they. had to play her game.

In retrospect, our first mutiny was the beginning of her victory. If Margaret Thatcher were chatting to a worried Tony Blair this morning, I have little doubt what she would be saying.

> Leading article and Letters, page 23

Labour takes on the French over currency club

BRITAIN and France were on course for a head-on clash over the single currency last night after Tony Blair refused to give ground in his fight for a seat on the "club" that will

As he arrived in Luxembourg for his biggest trial of strength in the European Union, Mr Blair for the first time acknowledged that he might block a deal at the summit if he fails to get a satisfactory deal. With the atmosphere souring. British officials openly blamed the French for being the main obstacle to an agreement that would allow Britain to sit on the so-called Euro X comm-

to see this as Britain versus the rest of Europe. From all our contacts in recent days, it is quite clear that this is really a French worry and the others are not so bothered."

The French were stung by the suggestion that they were to blame. A senior diplomat said: "This is a quarrel of Britain's making."

By suggesting that he was prepared to see deadlock this weekend, and get the issue sorted out under the British presidency over the next six months, Mr Blair was engaging in some traditional summit brinkmanship. But European diplomats were surprised that he had taken such a hard line, and predict-An official said: "It is wrong- ed that he would at some stage

EU states fail to agree expansion of membership

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN LUXEMBOURG

BRITAIN's plans for a London conference to launch the eastward expansion of the European Union may fall by the wayside unless EU leaders settle a row over the guest bourg today.

Tony Blair would like to invite 12 states who want EU membership to a London conference in the spring. The Prime Minister has

asked the Queen to open what was intended to be a crowning event in Britain's sixmonth presidency of the EU.

However, the 15 EU states have failed for months to agree on how to negotiate the bloc's expansion, how to pay for it and what to do with Turkey. The latter's desire to be treated the same as the was rejected last night by Jean-Claude Juncker, the Luxembourg prime minister and

CORRECTIONS

□A photograph of Mr Geoff Haselhurst, former group financial director of Laura Ashley pic, was wrongly used to illustrate an article on the company in The Times Magazine (November 29). We apologise for the error.

The world's best selling copyright book is The Guinness Book of Records (report, November 29).

host to the summit. "There is no comparison between Turkey and the 11 other applicant countries. No-one is tortured in those countries but that, unfortunately is the case in

The leaders are expected to settle on a minimalist outcome on Saturday, and invite Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Slovenia, Estonia and Cyprus to start accession negotiations in April with a view to becoming full EU members before the middle of

To keep the second-tier candidates - Bulgaria, Romania, Slovakia, Lithuania and Latvia - happy, they will be given promises of close links with Brussels, and an extra £75 million in aid over the next two years. All li candidates will attend a ceremonial start to negotiations in late March.

Turkey, a Nato member which first applied for EU membership in 1963, is increasingly irritated at being excluded even from the second tier of EU candidates. Britain and France are keen on inviting it to the conference and making other gestures to assuage Ankara's growing anger but Germany is not keen to give any encouragement to Turkey's European ambitions, and Greece has vowed to block the London conference unless the Turks give ground over Cyprus.

the Cabinet yesterday morning that it was not clear how the issue would be resolved at the summit. He was determined that the council of finance ministers should remain the main economic decision-making body of the EU and that, if a single currency committee was set up, "our presence must be the rule rather than the exception".

Afterwards a senior official said: "We would like it settled this weekend, but it would not be the end of the world if it ran over to our presidency." The Prime Minister, Gordon Brown and Robin Cook flew in for the summit insisting that Britain should sit at the single currency table "as a matter of course" as full participants, leaving only during discussions of such issues as the possible exchange rate at which a country outside the single currency might join.

Amid-signs that Germany

and France were looking for compromise over the "outs" — Britain, Sweden Denmark and Greece Mr. Blair was being triged to some his stance. It was clear he was not yet ready to do so. Downing Street had been hoping that special "chemistry" at heads of government meetings would enable him to reach agreement with Jacques Chirac and

M Chirac's spokesman held out the hope of some kind of "associate" status for Britain and the other "outs". Although this fell short of Mr Blair's demands, European diplomats predicted that a deal would eventually have to be built around a form of words that allowed regular attendance without a formal place.

Jean-Claud Juncker, Prime Minister of Luxembourg, has been leading the search for a deal this week, with visits to all European capitals. However, he said in Athens that it was up to the "outs" to give

Britain is nervous about being left outside, even though membership of the single currency has been ruled out during the present parlia-ment. Mr Brown and Mr Blair have argued that a range of issues, including employ-ment policy, would be discussed and would be of particular relevance to Britain. There are also fears, particularly among Eurosceptics, that once set up, the group might be tempted to discuss areas deeply sensitive to Britain such as harmonisation of tax rates and social



Don't meddle with Radio 4, Speaker tells BBC chief

Commons has issued a stern warning to the BBC not to reschedule Yesterday in Parliament or The Week in Westminster as part of a planned shake-up of BBC Radio 4.

Betty Boothroyd has this week told Sir Christopher Bland, chairman of the corpo-ration, in the bluntest possible terms not to go ahead with the

In a letter which has been placed in the Library of the House of Commons Miss Boothroyd says she hopes Sir Chrishopher will accept "that the proposed rescheduling of Yesterday in Parliament and of The Week in Westminster are not regarded by parliamentarians as meeting your public service responsibilities and that you will modify your

proposals accordingly". Earlier Sir Christopher told Miss Boothroyd that between 8.30am and 9am (when) esterday in Parliament is broadcasti Radio 4 toses audience Miss Boothroyd

wants coverage to be unchanged,

says Raymond Snoddy

faster than any other radio network. The rescheduling of parliamentary segment was being looked at as part of a review of all BBC news programmes. The BBC plan is to reschedule The Week in Westminster from its present Saturday morning position to Thursday evenings, a time which at the moment attracts considerably lower audiences

than Saturday mornings. In her letter of December 8 the Speaker said she was not persuaded by Sir Christopher's offer to come and explain the BBC proposals

complete. "At that stage, however, your decisions will no doubt be irrevocable," she

pointed out. The BBC chairman has now replied, assuring the Speaker that decisions would not have been made once the news review is complete.

Sir Christopher said he would regard a meeting with Miss Boothroyd at that time "as an important part of the consultative process before finalising the Radio 4 schedules and our parliamentary

The row over parliamentary coverage is just one aspect of wide-ranging changes to the Radio 4 schedules planned by James Boyle, controller of Radio 4, and due for imple-

mentation next April 1. It is not clear how well the traditionally conservative Radio 4 audience will take to dozens of changes coinciding running programmes

NEWS IN BRIEF

Thousands warned about tainted water

More than 40,000 people in Glasgow were warned not to drink, wash or prepare food using tap water after domestic supplies were contaminated by diesel fuel. Soldiers helped to deliver fresh water to Clydebank, Bearsden, Milngavie, Faifley, Duntocher and Hardgate, and customers were advised to boil water from the 230 standby tanks.

Casualty units and GPs were put on alert for any poisoning victims. Greater Glasgow Health Board said that anyone who had drunk or prepared food in the contaminated water might suffer sickness and nausea, but nothing more serious. Washing in it could cause skin and

The alert came after customers complained on Wednesday that the water smelt and tasted of turpentine. It is believed to have been caused by diesel leaking into supplies at the Burncrooks water treatment works near Loch Lomond. The West of Scotland Water Board has launched an inquiry into the contamination and into claims that it was too slow to react to customers' concerns.

Virgin balloon stranded

The Virgin Global Challenger balloon will be stranded in Algeria until the beginning of next week, as diplomatic negotiations continue to try to bring it back to Morocco. However, the flight around the globe will proceed as technicians who have made an initial inspection of the halloon have predicted that it can be used again.

£7,500 award for nurse

A theatre sister has won £7,500 from a consultant anaesthetist after he hit her on the head during an operation. In what is thought to be the first successful claim for assault and harassment brought by the Royal College of Nursing.
Andrea Sefton, of Bury, Greater Manchester, sued Bury Health Care NHS Trust and the anaesthetist.

Visit for jaile interse

The Saudi Arabian authorities have given unprecedented permission for Lucille McLauchlan, the British nurse jailed for her part in the murder of an Australian colleague, to enjoy a conjugal visit from her husband on Christmas Day and Boxing Day. McLauchlan was allowed to marry Grant

Warning over NHS

The promise that £1 billion will be saved by cutting NHS red tape could be illusory, the British Medical Association said. Mac Armstrong said: "The changes to the NHS outlined in the White Paper will need better management, not less management, and that will only come at a price. We have not been told where this money is to come from."

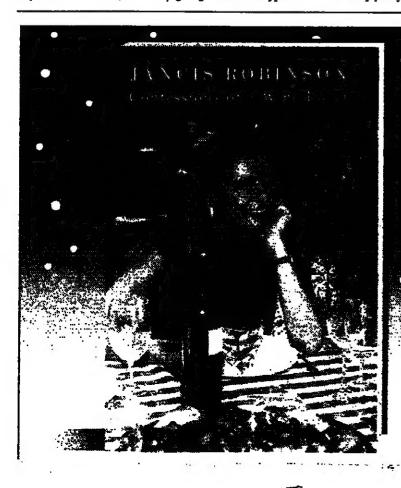
Oyston unfit for radio

Owen Oyston, the business-man, jailed for rape and indecent assault, was deemed by the Radio Authority, the industry regulatory body, to be an unfit person to hold commercial radio licences. The decision raises questions over the future of four commercial radio licences, one in England and three in Northern Ireland. The authority is now writing to all share-holders of the stations.



Ear-print evidence

In a test case that could make British legal history, an unemployed man charged with a string of burglaries on the evidence of ear-prints found at scenes of crimes was remanded in custody until January 8 next year at Horseferry Road magistrate's court. It is the first time in Britain that police are relying on ear-print evidence.



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Petite jeweller seized gun and foiled gem raid

A PETITE jeweller who stopped an armed robber in his tracks was commended for her "remarkable bravery" by an Old Bailey judge yesterday.
Kelly Halliday, who is 5ft
Zin, stopped David Brown
from grabbing a £3,500 ring. Then she wrenched what she believed to be an automatic handgun from his grasp be-fore he grabbed it back and

fled down the street. Judge Gerald Gordon gave Miss Halliday a £250 reward, which she said she would spend on a Christmas present for her three-year-old son. Judge Gordon ordered Brown, 20, to be detained in a young offenders' institution for 4½ years.

for 42 years.

Jeremy Hardy, for the prosecution, said that Brown

Twickenham Police Station on

struck at Bijou Jewellers in September 16 this year in East Sheen, southwest London, where Miss Halliday, 25, had been working on her own. He went in and asked to see the most expensive jewel-encrust-

ed ring on display.
"She picked it out and showed it to him. He said: 'Give me the ring.' She noticed in his left hand what appeared to be an automatic handgun," said Mr Hardy.

Brown tried to snatch the display box, but "Miss Halliday, far from conceding the box and its contents, instead fought back, starting to grab the firearm from him and he grabbed it back. He

Mother praised for heavyweight justice

By Paul WILKINSON

A 16-STONE mother has received a police commendation after preventing the escape of a teenage thief. She tripped

him up then sat on him.

Neighbours of Christine
Brierley in Batley, West Yorkshire, have alcknamed her

"The Terminator". She said: "People thought it was hilarious. They could have called me worse. I don't think I'm brave enough."

Mrs Brierley, 45, a checkout supervisor, was naturally suspicious when the 17-year old ran from a post office waving banknotes at three friends and shouting: "I've got it." She said: "I grabbed him.

He was struggling so I whipped his legs from under him and sat on him.
"He started telling all the things he was going to do to me. I don't like being talked to like that so I tightened my grip. I knew it wasn't his money. I kept thinking it could be a pensioner's cash."

After she frogmarched the ten-stone youth back to the



Christine Brierley:

he had been cashing a stolen £280 Giro cheque. Her husband Peter, 47,

said: "It's the kind of thing she would do without thinking. I'm proud of her."

The youth received a 12month supervision order for burglary. Mrs Brierley, a mother of four, received a Good Citizen of the Month plaque from West Yorkshire Police. The assistant chief constable Norman Bettison said: "She acted in a brave

September 25. No weapon was ever recovered. Brown, of Mortlake, southwest London, admitted attempted robbery. and possessing a firearm or imitation with intent to commit an offence.

Passing sentence, Judge Gordon told him: "Working on her own in that shop was jeweller's assistant Kelly Halliday. Having got her to move the most expensive ring from the window display you pulled the gun on her and demanded the ring.

"With quite remarkable bravery and despite the gun she fought with you to prevent you taking her employer's property. She succeeded and you failed. You ran off home leaving her crying and almost hysterical, and no wonder."

Brown, who has previous convictions for offences including robbery, assault and criminal damage, had claimed that he needed cash to pay off his debts to a drug dealer. The judge responded: "That should be an object lesson to young people minded to ex-periment with drugs. People who work in local shops be those jewellers, corner shops, sub-post offices or the like have got to be protected from the sort of devastating experience Kelly Halliday suffered. an experience that must affect people for life."

Judge Gordon said: "In my view Miss Halliday deserves to be commended for what I described as quite remarkable bravery, accurately described. Employers and insurers who have also saved a considerable sum may find ways of rewarding her.'

After the case Miss Halliday, from Kingstonupon-Thames, southwest London, wearing a black trou-ser suit, said that she had gone to work the next day as usual. "I was a bit jumpy but it was OK. I was nervous for a little bit afterwards."

Her boyfriend, Adam Heraty, said that Miss Halliday was happy that the ordeal was over. "Obviously when it happened I was angry. because she was very upset." post office, police found that and public-spirited manner." he said



هكذامن الإمل

Kelly Halliday leaving court yesterday. She was praised for her remarkable bravery

Woman says sex bias cost her £200,000 job

By EMMA WILKINS

A COMPUTER executive was sacked from her £200,000-a-year job while male colleagues who lost business were promoted, an industrial tribunal was told

Caroline Olds, 34, who increased her basic salary of £20,000 by earning commission, was dismissed from her account manager's job at Computacentre in 1996 after nine years with the company. Ms Olds, who is now unemployed and seven months pregnant, won her case for unfair dismissal against the company - Britain's biggest computer sup-plier — at a tribunal hearing

in August.
Ms Olds, who was born in South Africa and now lives in Wapping, East London, is now claiming sexual dis-crimination and is demanding £165.000 in allegedly unpaid commission. She was dismissed after her three biggest clients - Mer-cury Communications, Reader's Digest and Robert Fleming, the merchant bank

- asked for her to be removed from their accounts the tribunal was

But she claimed that her dismissal contrasted with the treatment of male colleagues, who were given senior management jobs or transferred to other accounts if they lost clients for the company. I was dismissed but they were offered transfers or promotions. They were certainly allowed to keep their jobs." Ms Olds

Mike Norris, chief executive of Computacentre, admitted telling Ms Olds that saleswomen were "difficult" to manage. "My experience is that they were either very good indeed or no good. What we haven't seen is a mediocre performance," he told the tribunal at Croydon. South London.

"Caroline at her best was a fabulous account manager but her performance tailed off six to nine months before the end of her time with us. I think she'd just lost interest" he said. Ms Olds was

agement job because she did not "get on" with people and had "temper tantrums". "She had a very poor record in terms of her support to colleagues," Mr Norris said. Ms Olds was also respon-

sible for a series of "fruity" e-mail messages sent to col-leagues and "was infamous for verbal abuse", he added.

When asked by John Warren, chairman of the tribunal, whether Computacentre took any steps to teach Ms Olds better skills or discipline. Mr Norris said: "We tolerated the situation rather than tried to rectify it which was a mistake, I admit."

Mr Norris said that Ms Olds had never shown any interest in a senior manage-



Olds: says company owes her £165,000

ment role. "On many occasions Caroline made it clear to me she was only interested in increasing her own earnings. Not once did she approach me to ask about management positions," Mr

Norris said. But Ms Olds, who is representing herself, claimed she had telephoned Mr Norris on his mobile phone one evening before her dismissal to say she was prepared to leave London to become a regional branch manager.

Computacentre currently employs a female manager who is responsible for 15 junior managers in London but Mr Norris acknowledged she was promoted dismissed. The hearing was adjourned to next June.

Husband NH 2 stabbed going to wife's aid

By SIMON DE BRUXELLES

A MAN who tried to protect his wife from two robbers was in intensive care last night after being stabbed at least five times.

David Hurd, a 40-year-old builder, had gone to collect his wife, Susan, from the shop where she works when he interrupted the robbery. He saw the hooded men club his wife and slash her hands when she hesitated to open the till in the shop attached to a sub-post office at South Twerton, near Bath.

The robbers stabbed Mr Hurd three times in the head, twice in the chest and slashed his face, leaving him lying unconscious in a pool of blood. Last night his condition was described as serious but

The raiders escaped in a stolen car that was later found abandoned. Mr Hurd was taken to the Royal United Hospital in Bath where he underwent emergency

surgery.

The sub-postmaster and a customer were hurt, but not seriously. The Post Office offered a "substantial" reward for information leading to conviction of the attackers. It was not yet known how much

☐ An 18-year-old man arrested later on Wednesday night at another incident in Bath was being questioned about the robbery.

Grand National owner attacked and robbed

By Stewart Tendler, crime correspondent

THE owner of this year's Grand National winner and his wife have been attacked and robbed in their home.

Police said yesterday that Stan Clarke, 64. a millionaire property owner and chairman of two racecourse companies. was cut on the cheek during the raid on Wednesday night at his home in Barton-under-Needwood, Staffordshire. The gang stole £500 and jewellery which was still being valued yesterday. They did not take the Martell Grand National Trophy, won by his horse Lord

Gyllene in April.

Detectives are liaising with other forces to see if there are links to similar burglaries at

the homes of wealthy victims over the past three years.

The attacks have been linked to criminals in the North West nicknamed the Quality Street Gang, but police believe a number of different burglary teams have been at work. In the latest robbery, the masked burglars burst into

the Clarke home through an unlocked conservatory door. They had a baseball bat, a knife and a screwdriver with which they threatened Mr Clarke and his wife, Hilda. The couple were pinned to floor and then handcuffed together as the men began

Mr and Mrs Clarke with some of their trophies

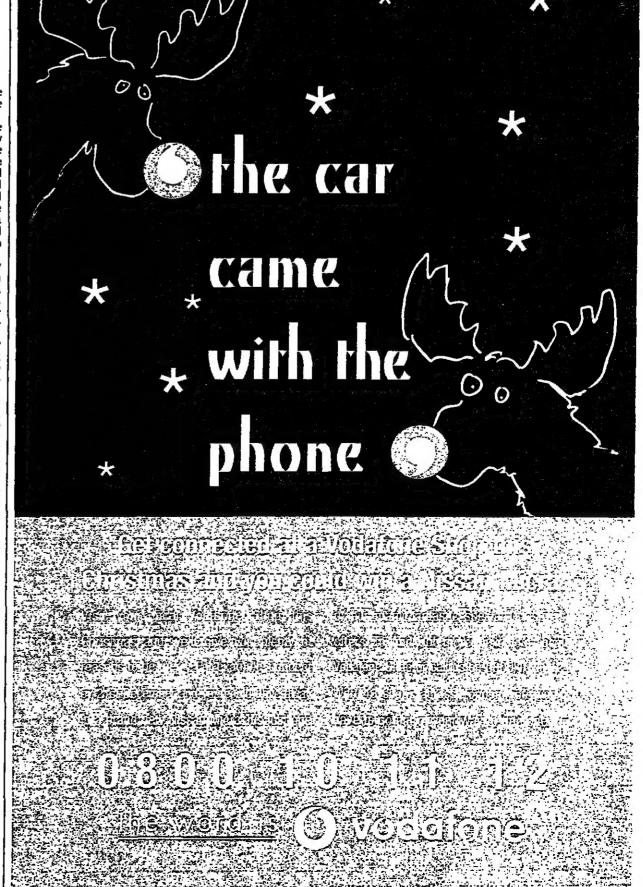
couple were told they would be attacked if they set off the

> After they left Mr Clarke managed to dial emergency services using his chin. He said yesterday: "I just left the conservatory door unlocked for a couple of minutes and they were in. They just walked in. Believe me they won't be able to do that again. It was a very nasty experience and

something I never want to go through again in all my life." He said: "They slashed my face and Hilda and I are both bruised. It was an awful experience and Hilda is very, very shocked. Thankfully we are now both all right al-

though Hilda is very upset." John Raybould, the Clarkes' chauffeur, said: "They're both strong characters, but they've been through the most frightening ordeal of their lives. "We're always wary of this sort of thing happening, because it is an attractive property and they are both well known people. But you still never think it will happen. They have lived in the village for 24 years and never had any problems before. They just want a bit of peace and quiet now and a bit of time to get over this with their family and friends."

Acting Detective Inspector Steve Burton said the gang might have staked out the property for some time and police were seeking witnesses who might have seen them as they watched or made their



Lottery winner 'turned to drugs' resorted again to using the drug and

By PAUL WILKINSON

A LOTTERY winner said he turned to drugs to cope with the pressures of becoming an overnight multi-millionaire, a court heard yesterday. The stresses lead to Colin Sampson's wife walking out on him and his two young children having to move schools.

Sampson, 39, was targeted by police who arrived at his huxury home in Sheffield looking for cocaine but found only a small quantity of cannabis. The former plasterer, whose life was transformed in October last year when he and

his wife Deana, 37, won £5.4 million, pleaded guilty to possessing and cultivat-ing cannabis. Police found a cannabis bush in his kitchen which had a value of £45, and cannabis resin worth £600.

Magistrates in Sheffield gave him a two-year conditional discharge and two

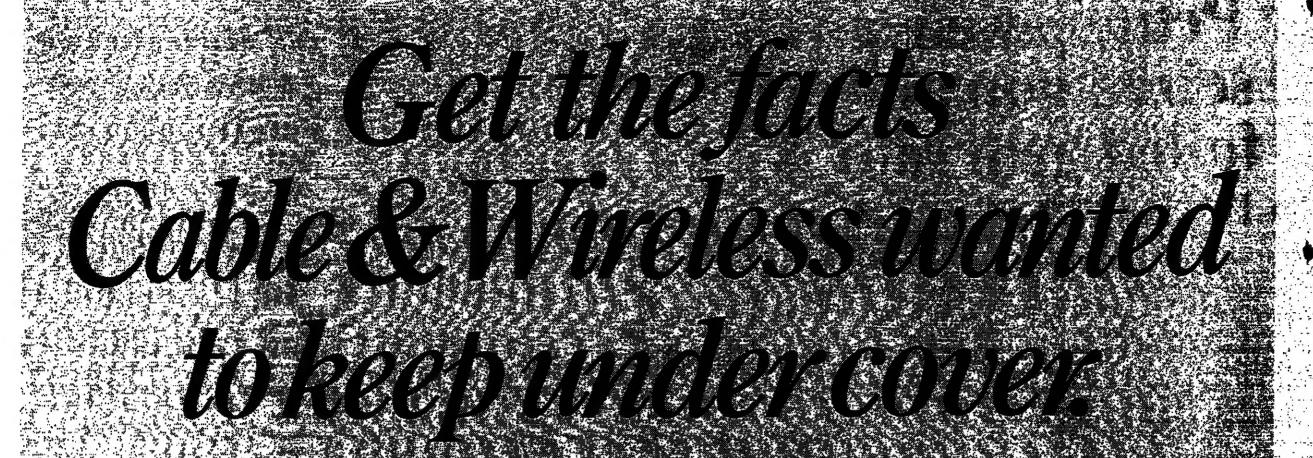
weeks to pay £50 costs.

George Tierney, Sampson's lawyer told the court: "Had he not had all the trappings of wealth, I believe the press and the police would not have chased him to this extent."

He said Sampson, who had previous cautions for possessing cannabis, had

cultivating it because of the strains since he won the Lottery. "He threw the bush to one side, went on holiday for a few weeks, and when he came back, the bush had prospered. There was no intention to supply. The cannabis was bought in bulk for his own use.
"If he still lived on the Stradbroke

council estate, like any ordinary family with 24 children, he would not have received the same media attention that he has today. His life has been made hell. He cannot do anything without attract-



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Foster toy hu to chilc say cha

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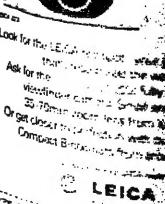
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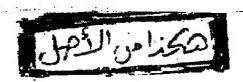
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Foster girl toy hurtful to children, say charities

agencies yesterday called for a ban on the sale of the latest cyberpet toy to reach Britain from Japan. It features a virtual foster child who has to be fed and educated before she

can be put up for adoption.

Kimiko the Fosterling is a human version of the popular Tamagotchi, and has been selling well in toyshops ahead of Christmas. However, semeimporters have stopped distributing it because of com-plaints that it is insulting to ioster children.
The wristwatch-sized toy

has a digital image of a little girl, Kimiko, who has been abandoned by her parents and has to be murtured by foster carers. She must be fed, bathed and put to bed at night: her foster parent must play with her to keep her amused and educate her.

Kimoko must also be disciplined from time to time to stop her being naughty. If standards of care slip, she will run away. The object is to increase Kimiko's IQ so that she can be successfully adopted by new parents.

Adoption and foster care groups said the toy was upsetting foster children who saw friends playing with it, it also perpetuated damaging myths



about fostering "We are appalled by this product and have asked imperiors to cease distribution immediately." Felicity Collier, director of the British Agencies for Adoption and Fostering, said. "Children and carers have told us that they find it deeply upsetting. The misleading messages

this game gives about being in foster care are most insensitive and could actually be hurtful to children who may already have experienced some sad-ness." She said dozens of children and foster parents had complained to the charity

about the game.

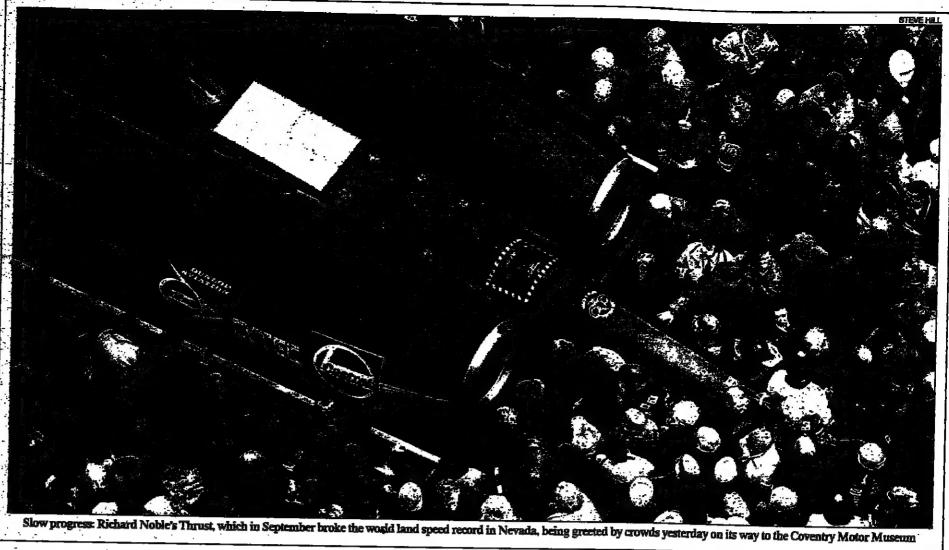
Derek Warren of the Natlonal Foster Care Association said the toys treated foster children as a commodity. The game can only be negative for children and young people in loster care," he said. They are already stigmatised by virtue of being in care, and this just adds to their problems and the way they are generally beld in

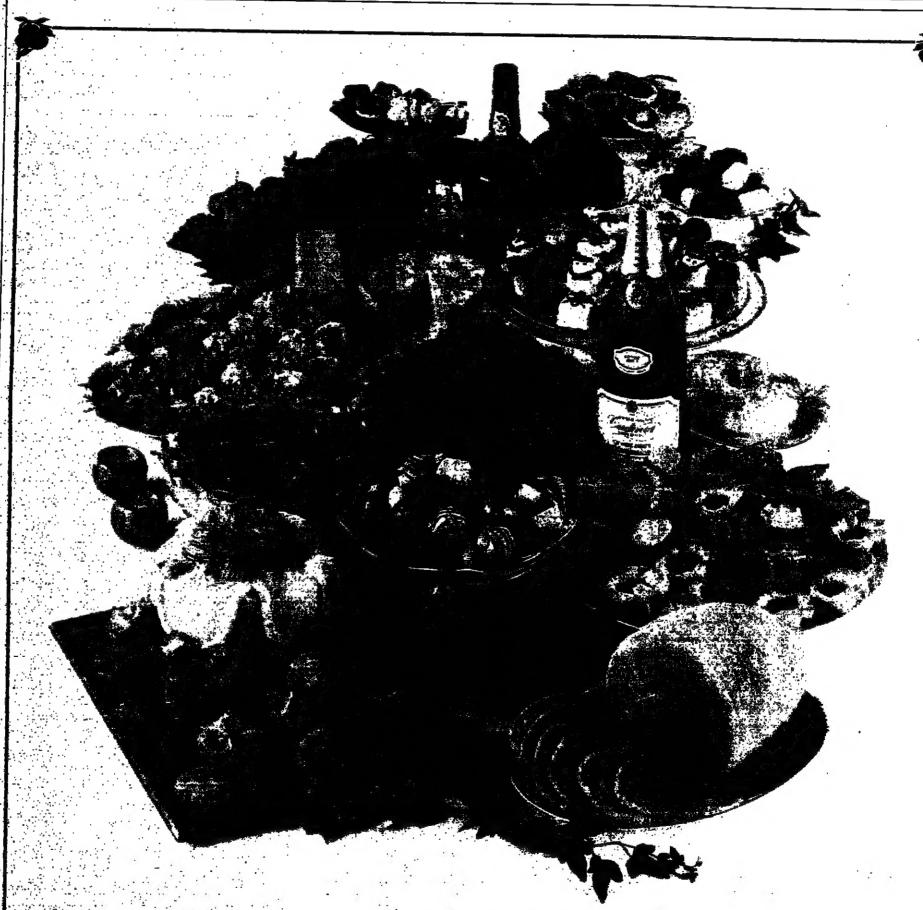
The association has complained to the Advertising Standards Authority about publicity for the toys released by the World Stock Corporation in Birmingham. Kimiko was billed as a child deserted at birth, needs raising and millions want to do just that". The toy was advertised as one of a number of "virtual pets". It retails at £6.95.

.The World Stock Corporation has no plans to order further supplies. We did not realise the sensitivity of the product when we first ordered it," a spokesman said. Other importers have also stopped

distributing the toy because of concerns about good taste.

John Lewis said it would reconsider the sale of the toys in light of the charities concerns. "We will be reviewing whether or not to take further deliveries as part of our normal assessment process," a spokesman said. "We had no intention of causing officace or





All-women school 1 finds fatherly touch

By DAVID CHARTER, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

A PRIMARY school whose 37 staff are all female has brought in seven fathers and a grandfather to provide mas-culine role models. The head feared that literacy skills among boys were suffering

years, apart from trainees. Men account for 17 per cent of teachers nationally for the under-eights, and the Teacher Training Agency forecasts that they will disappear from primary schools by 2010 if the

Sylvia Pletcher, the head, said: "Boys weren't achieving as well as girls. I thought the best way to redress the balance was to send a letter home explaining the situation to

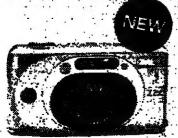
dads. We now have seven or eight coming in every week. We started out with men

listening to boys read. Now they listen to boys and girls." The volunteers attend for a couple of hours a week. Steve Legge, 36, a naval petty of-ficer, has, five-year-old twin daughters, Josie and Kirsty, at

school, but I know this work is really important.

The 37 staff include 11 m teachers, mine assistants, two administration staff, 10 dinner ladies, two workers, and the head.

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Lord Chancellor eyes Bar's last preserve

THE Lord Chancellor is to challenge to the last preserve of the Bar that will cause consternation. Lord Irvine of Lairg is believed to want to look again at allowing Crown Prosecution Service lawyers the right to prosecute jury

At present the CPS instructs parristers from private practice, which last year cost £76 million. Last month, Lord Irvine told the Minority Lawrights of audience issue very soon." He said that the machdetermining advocacy rights, a complex consultative procea "statutory quagmire".

A further re-examination of the Bar's virtual monopoly of Crown Court work (solicitor advocates have taken only a tiny share) would be welcomed by the CPS and the Law Society. Dame Barbara Mills, QC,

ence for all CPS lawvers." Russell Wallman, director of policy at the Law Society, said: The Government is failing to make savings on prosecution costs because they can't use even CPS lawyers as flexibly as they might wish. It's about making sure that clients have The previous Lord Chancela choice of advocate."

But the move could mean a big loss of work by the Bar, which is already worried by proposals to remove most civil legal aid and bring in "no win. no fee" work. Robert Owen, QC, Bar chairman, said: "The Bar is strongly against having

a Crown Prosecution Service which conducts all the prosecution work in the Crown Court. The value of the system is in having an independent barrister who plays an independent role, so that you do ployed by the state."

CPS lawyers appear in Crown Court trials on their own. Court trials on their own. They also said lawyers working for the CPS, or employed in commerce, industry and government, could not handle substantive High Court civil actions without a private practice lawyer. The Law Society had called for Crown Court advocacy rights on behalf of solicitors working for the CPS. Solicitors in private practice. Solicitors in private practice may qualify as higher-court advocates and appear in Crown Court trials if they meet stringent requirements.

The first woman chairman of the Bar, who is to take up the post on January 1, has dismissed the Lord Chancellor's attacks on barristers' "fat fees". Heather Hallett, QC, told the Bar Council in her inaugural speech last night: "For the vast majority of the Bar doing publicly funded work, the idea of a fat fee is as much a dream as winning the lottery. We are well aware that



The artist Michael Landy, 34, sits by his Tate Gallery Christmas display after it was wheeled into place yesterday. His creation includes a damaged Teletubbies doll, empty supermarket bags, bits of broken Christmas tree, drink cans and a pizza box

Double-booking 'forces CPS to use second-rate counsel'

By OUR LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

SECOND-RATE" barristers ion Service because of the huge number of briefs sent back at the last minute as a result of double-booking.

A National Audit Office report published today says that 433 cases found that briefs were returned in three quarters of cases. In almost a third of them, the substitute counsel appointed was "judged to

and can have an adverse impact on the handling of cases, the office says. "Double-booking" occurs when a trial barristers are involved with lasts longer than expected and another counsel has to be intructed. The problem is exacerbated by the inability of courts always to set definite trial dates.

The report says: "This can staff and may have an adverse effect on the timeliness and standard of preparation and there may be few counsel of suitable quality available at short notice, particularly if a brief is returned just before the

David Calvert-Smith, QC. vice-chairman of the Criminal Bar Association, said the Bar took the problem of returned briefs very seriously and was taking steps to enforce the new service standard introduced in

Chadlington hits back at 'hysterical' report on Opera

LORD CHADLINGTON, Royal Opera House, yester-day hit back at the "insulting and hysterical" Commons committee report which pre-

ceded his resignation.

He accused the Culture
Select Committee of a "gross abuse" of its privileges for attacking on the filmsiest of evidence and innuendo" pub-lie-spirited people who gave

The committee, chaired by the Labour MP Gerald Kaufman, had said: "We would prefer to see the House run by financial acumen than by the succession of opera and ballet-lovers who have brought a great and valuable institution to its knees.

Lord Chadlington, writing in The Spectator magazine. said: "The language in which the committee's report is written - of which Mr Kaufman seems so proud — is insulting in the extreme. To attack the whom give freely of their time and lavishly of their money, on the flimsiest of evidence of privilege."

He said that he had initiat-

ance. But he said that Mr be welcome in the new Royal Opera House when redevel-

will have been possible more through the efforts of those who work at the Royal Opera House, those who support it. and those who love it than the hysterical hyperbole of your select committee's report

Letters, page 23.

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Professor advises against beef or lamb for children

By Michael Hornsby AGRICULTURE

A DISTINGUISHED scientist advised parents yesterday to encourage young children to eat chicken rather than beef or lamb because of the risks posed by "mad cow" disease.

Professor Colin Blakemore, head of physiology at Oxford University and president of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, spoke as farmers were offered a glimmer of hope of faster progress towards easing the ban on beef exports. The European Commission said it was bringing forward talks on a proposal that could lift the ban in Northern Ireland, the

region least affected by BSE. The professor said that he had stopped eating beef more than ten years ago, and had now given up lamb as well: About a month ago, I decided I was not going to eat lamb because I felt there was sufficient evidence that BSE might But farmers are given a fresh

glimmer of hope

on an end to

European Union

have passed into sheep. However small the risk. I did not like the taste of lamb enough

ban on exports

to feel it was worth taking." His own grown-up children had ignored his advice not to eat beef, but he added: "If I had a baby now, I would certainly not be feeding it

The fatalities from the variant of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease linked to BSE might be just the beginning, he said. The missing element is any

Healthy alternative carries its own risks

BY ROBIN YOUNG

able health advantages as a meat relatively low in saturat-ed fatty acids, but it is also the the most common cause of

food poisoning.

All poultry is a good source of protein, vitamins, and minerals such as iron, zinc, phosphorus and potassium. The protein is required to build and repair body tissue, and the B vitamins which poultry provides are required for a healthy nervous system.

Chicken and turkey liver are excellent sources of vitamin A, which is needed for healthy skin and resistance to infection. Most of the fat in poultry is unsaturated and so will not raise blood cholesterol levels. Although duck and geese are fatty, chicken and turkey are relatively lean, and most of their fat is contained in the

. . Torinum

CHICKEN offers consider- removed. Skinless chicken and turkey breasts contain only about 5 per cent fat.

Duck provides twice as much thiamin and riboflavin as chicken, and has three times as much iron, while a typical serving of goose provides three times as much riboflavin as chicken and almost twice the amount of vitamin B12; 100 grams of goose contains one third of the daily required amount of iron for women, and more than half that needed by men.

Poultry is a high-risk source of salmonella and campylobacter bacteria. Chicken or turkey should never be eaten if the meat appears pink or bloody, and hands should always be thoroughly washed after handling raw poultry. Salmonella survives freezing. but is destroyed by thorough

period. If thousands are dying in five or ten years' time, which I hope will not be the case, the ban on beef on the bone will look very prudent."

Earlier this week, a scientif-ic advisory committee in Brussels suggested that most cuts of lamb on the bone from sheep over six months old should be banned in "highrisk" countries such as Britain. The Government's Spongiform Encephalopathy Advisory Committee is to con-

sider whether there should be tougher controls, but is not expected to change its advice. On Radio 4's World at One, Jack Cunningham, the Agriculture Minister, said: "There is no question of lamb chops, leg or rack of lamb, being off the agenda. They will continue

to be available as now." Jeff Almond, a microbiologist at Reading University and a member of the advisory committee, said: "I do not want to pre-empt our discussions, but we have been through all this before. The Brussels committee had no data we did not have."

On the committee's advice, the Government has already banned consumption of sheep brain, and from January 1 the spinal cord must be removed at abattoirs on animals over 12 months old. Lamb comes from younger animals.

Professor Almond still eats beef and lamb, and said the risk in sheep was entirely theoretical: "Are you going to knacker an entire industry on the strength of an entirely conjectural risk?"

In Brussels, Emma Bonino. the Commissioner for Consumer Health, disclosed the chance of partially lifting the beef ban in talks with Ben Gill, deputy president of the National Farmers' Union. Discussion of a "certified herd scheme" had been scheduled for mid-January, but will now take place next Tuesday.

Under the scheme, beef could be exported from herds certified as untainted. Northern Ireland has a computerised system for tracing cattle movements and health history. The mainland is not expected to have this until next



Feeling sheepish: Barry Greenwood, a textile technologist, up to his neck in fleece soon to become a jumper, below, Dolly, the first cloned sheep



Designers fashion a Dolly spin-off

SCIENTISTS are about to create the ultimate spin-off from the world's first cloned sheep. Technologists at Leeds University's School of Textile Industries, responsible for transforming Dolly's 2.5kg of high-quality fleece into wool, have already cleaned the coat before it is dyed and spun ready for knitting into a

The fleece from the first shearing of the 17-month-old Finn Dorset breed, cloned from an adult cell, was auctioned by the Cystic Fibrosis Trust earlier this year to highlight the life-threatening genetic disease. The charity devised a competition, launched on BBCI's The Clothes Show, to design a jumper using Dolly's wool. The winner will be announced in February and, after being modelled, the jumper will go on permanent display at the Science Museum in London.

Barry Greenwood, a textile technologist at Leeds University, said: "The fleece will produce a very good fine-to-medium

knitwear." He said fleece from cloned sheep could produce a consistent quality of wool. "Manufacturers would know exactly what they were buying if they were uniform fleeces, rather like the way synthetic fibres can be controlled."

The fleece was solvent-scoured and will be carded - a process to open the tufts to create a coarse yarn - helore being dyed and spun. The winning

'Alarmist' politicians blamed for BSE crisis

A coroner has spoken out after a farmer with money

"alarmist politicians" for contributing to the crisis in the beef industry. Dewi Pritchard-Jones was speaking after hearing evidence that a farmer had killed himself because of fi-

nancial worries. Mr Pritchard-Jones also said he would willingly buy any beef on the bone if a farmer or butcher set up a black market in such cuts of meat, which are due to be

banned from next Tuesday. Glyn Pritchard, 45, who farmed near Bangor in Caernarfonshire, was found dead on September 27. He was lying on an embankment near

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worries shot himself. Michael Hornsby reports between his legs and wounds hope that this is not the start of

in his neck. Nesta Pritchard told the inquest in Caernarfon that she was aware her husband had some farmers especially are been under financial pressure. but did not realise he was suffering from depression. She said: "He always kept himself busy, threw himself into his work and, perhaps, hid his depression. There were

many things worrying him associated with farming and pressure on us from outside."

on the bone announced by a trend, because I am aware. Jack Cunningham, the Agribeing a solicitor in private culture Minister, last week practice in a rural area, of the because of a remote risk that it commercial pressures that might be infected with "mad

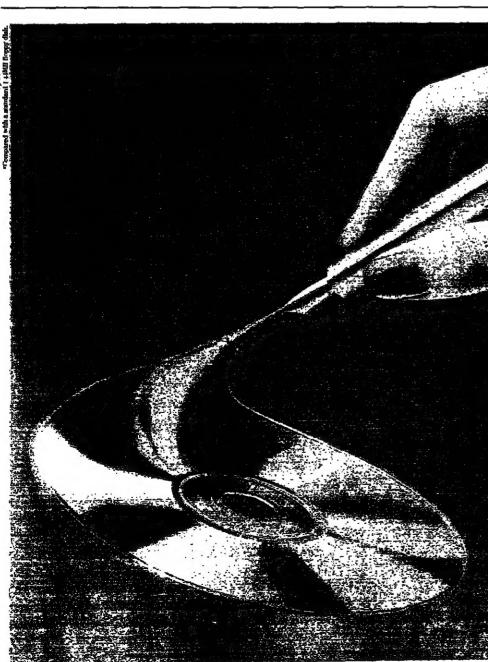
cow disease.

The coroner recorded a verunder at this particular time. dict of suicide at the inquest on He added: I consider the Wednesday, saying he could not imagine Mr Pritchard recent comments and actions of politicians to be completely unwarranted and I hope that firing the gun in the way he did if it was not his intention to those actions will not result in further deaths in the manner kill himself. that Mr Pritchard died." Mr Pritchard-Jones appeared to

Letters Mr Pritchard had received were inside his shirt.

detail, except to comment that he was under commercial pressure." He told Mrs Pritchard: "I am sorry I had to drag you into the political sphere at the end, but I feel somebody eught to say it."

Farmers have a suicide rate one and a half times the national average. However, only one suicide has been specifically linked to the BSE crisis. That was a Yorkshire beel farmer, William Rodney, who shot himself in May 1996. after taking cattle to market and being fold that he would only get half the price for them he had been expecting. He was



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Vilified Haig 'deserves credit for winning war'

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

A CALL for a kinder assessment of Earl Haig's part in the First World War was made in front of the Field Marshal's son yesterday at the opening of an exhibition to mark the 80th anniversary of the war's end. Field Marshal Lord

Bramali, former Chief of the Defence Staff, urged the reappraisement as generations of ex-servicemen, including two veterans of the Somme, gathered at the Imppresent Earl Haig, 79, later said that his father, who was heavily criticised for his wartime leadership, deserved to be remembered more sympa-Lord Bramall said: "Despite

the massive surge of interest in the Great War over the last 21) years or so, the First World War and the performance of the British Army in it are still viewed by the public in largely negative terms. Most people have heard of the Somme.

The present Earl Haig, left, with Robert Burns, 102, at the Imperial War Museum exhibition yesterday

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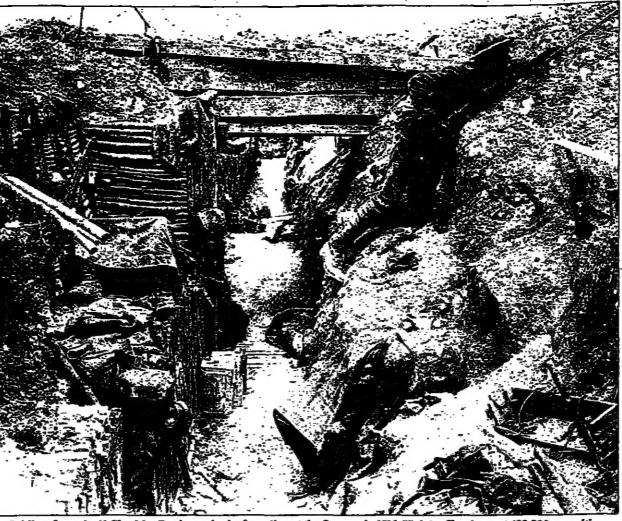
PEACE OF MIND FOR

YEARS TO COME

especially the disastrous first day on July 1, 1916, or the mud and carnage of Passchendaele. Many have read and been profoundly moved by the poems of Owen and Sassoon, by Robert Graves's Goodbye To All That, or have seen the

film Oh What a Lovely War. "As a result public perceptions of the war remain almost wholly dominated by images of futile, frontal assaults in Flanders, of generals perceived as butchers and bunglers, of insensitive and incompetent staff officers, and of brave but tactically naive frontline troops — in other words, 'lions led by donkeys'." Yet, Lord Bramall said.

Haig - who bore the brunt of historical criticism for the carnage — won perhaps the greatest succession of victories in the history of the British Army. "If we are quick to criticise Haig and his army commanders for mistakes and some failures in 1916 and 1917, even forgetting it was Haig who saved the British Empire at the first battle of Ypres, it is only fair to give proper credit for their successes in 1918.



Soldiers from the 11 Cheshire Regiment in the front line at the Somme in 1916: Haig's offensive cost 420,000 casualties

The greatest disservice we can do their memory is to forget that in 1918 they actually achieved what they were fight-ing for, albeit at a very high

price in human lives." The present Lord Haig, a distinguished artist, opened

the exhibition - 1918: Year of Decision, which tells the story of the Western Front and features his father's uniform and the pen used to sign the Armistice in November 1918. Lord Haig said: "All this material will. I hope, help the

people of this country to a right reading of history and give greater awareness of the British achievement so that we recognise that the anniversary of victory in 1918 is one which we can be proud of."

Robert Burns, 102, who



Haig: toll shocked public 'Kill more Germans' ORN in Edinburgh. DougHaig formula:

BORN in Edinburgh. Doug-las Haig fought in the Sudan and South Africa before taking a War Office post, When the First World War broke out, be led the 1st Corps of the British Expeditionary Force to France and in 1915 became Commander in Chief.

With the battle zone hemmed in by the sea and the Swiss border, Haig was forced to wage a costly war of attrition, tauthy summarised as "kill more Germans". An unsuccessful offensive on the Somme cost 420,000 British lives and the Passchendaele campaign another 245,000, shocking the British public. But Haig helped to stop the German offensive of 1918 and led a victorious Allied assault that resulted in the enemy plea for an armistice.

After the war he was created an earl and organised the British Legion, dying in 1928 at the age of 66.



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served with the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders at Loos

and the Somme, was the oldest

of those attending. Mr Burns, from Gourock, Invercivde.

said: "As the years go on, I am

very proud to know I did

thing for my country."

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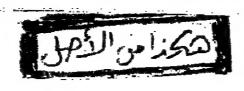
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Former Parachute Regiment members in Whitehall condemning Mr Adams's visit

Adams greeted by jeers, cheers and soldier's mother

BY MARTIN FLETCHEI CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

TONY BLAIR gave Gerry Adams not only an hour at Downing Street yesterday but also a propaganda coup that Sinn Fein has rarely enjoyed

The sight of Mr Adams and his colleagues entering No 10's black front door was just part of it. From dawn to dusk, "Gerry and his peace-makers", as they were dubbed by the media, plugged their republican cause in interviews with reporters from Toronto to Tokyo and all points between.

Mr Adams was talking on his mobile phone as his red Toyota Previa led a fourvehicle motorcade away from his Kensington hotel shorty after 8am.He was talking to Radio 4's Today as he drove past Harvey Nicholls. From Parn to 10am he was on Nicky Campbell's Radio Five Live call in show.

With the notable exception of the calls from Northern Ireland, his exchanges with a British public familiar with IRA atrocities were remarkably cordial. One call was from Colin Parry, whose young son died in the IRA's Warrington bomb of 1993. The two men had a civil conversation, with Mr Adams hoping that other families would not have to suffer as his had done.

John Holmes PM's Principal



Rita Restorick with the card showing her son

Mr Adams's stock answers to more aggressive questioners were: "We have the opportunity to put all this behind us ... It's no good being a nay-sayer ... Let's go forward, let's be

Yes, he would favour a South African-style truth and reconciliation commission. Yes, he had once claimed British unemployment benefit but no. he did not have a British passport, nor did he watch EastEnders or the Spice

From Broadcasting House it was on to Bookmarks, a socialist bookshop in Bloomsbury Street. Mr Adams delegated the interviewee's

admit the political representatives of the IRA into the heart of the British Establishment Eighty minutes later they emerged for another lengthy role to his colleague, Martin press conference. After that it WHO SAT WHERE AT THE TALKS was off to Millbank for yet more interviews before catching the 9.20pm flight home from Heathrow.

☐ After the No 10 meeting. Gerry Adams ignored a question in English from a British journalist and answered in Irish a question posed in Irish. He learnt the language in the Maze prison but does not have the fluency of a native speaker.

paperback copies of his latest book, An Irish Voice: The

Mr Adams slipped down to the Thames Embankment to

collect his thoughts before the

Great Encounter. In Downing Street, photographers and television crews had been

gathering since early morn-

ing. There were enough aluminium ladders for a deco-

In Whitehall, a large crowd of republicans waving mi-colours faced an equally large

crowd of National Front sup-

porters waving Union flags and cursing the IRA.The "Shinners" arrived at 1.42pm

and were greeted by jeers and

cheers in equal measure and

the occasional cry of "murder-ers". They walked up Downing Street, to be met by

Rita Restorick, mother of the

last British soldier killed in

Northern Ireland, who had

been admitted by officials

She handed Mr Adams a Christmas card bearing a

picture of a dove and a photo

of her son, Stephen. She said

that she favoured the meeting

but wanted to make sure the

The door of No 10 opened to

publicity was balanced.

from No 10.

rators' convention

The language is fluently spoken by 4 per cent of the 3.6 million people in Ireland. Banned by 17th century British colonialists, Irish is undergoing a revival and its nationalist connotations have faded.

Leading article, page 23



From left: Martin Ferris, Martin McGuinness, Gerry Adams, Lucilita Bhreatnach and Siobhan O'Hanlon

Shadow of IRA hangs over No 10

BY MARTIN FLETCHER

FOUR of the seven-member Sinn Fein delegation that visited Downing Street yesterday have IRA convictions, and three have been named as members of

the terrorists' ruling army council. Gerry Adams, 49, is Sinn Fein's resident and MP for West Belfast. Despite his denials, security sources believe he is a former commander of the IRA's Belfast battalion and now first among equals on the army council. He has been interned, but never convicted of

a terrorist offence. Martin McGuinness, 47, is MP for Mid-Ulster and Sinn Fein's chief negotia-tor at the Stormont peace talks. He was twice convicted for IRA membership in the Irish Republic and was active during the Troubles. He, too, is believed to be on

the army council, although he denies it. Martin Ferris, from Co Kerry, is also said to be a member of the seven-man army council and is a member of Sinn Fein's national executive. He was sentenced to ten years' imprisonment in 1984 for seeking to smuggle seven tons of weapons into Ireland from America on the trawler Marita Ann. His presence on the delegation was evidently designed to reassure republican hardliners sceptical

of the peace process. Siobhan O'Hanlon. another member of Sinn Fein's national executive, was jailed for seven years in 1983 for possessing explosives. She is the niece of Joe Cahill, the grand old man of

Irish republicanism. Richard McAuley. Gerry Adams's 44year-old press officer, was sentenced to ten years' imprisonment in 1974 for

planting a bomb in Belfast. Lucilita Bhreatnach. Sinn Fein's general secretary, is a member of a prominent

republican family from Dublin. Michelle Gildernew, the seventh member of the delegation. heads Sinn Fein's British desk.

Inquiry into escape of Maze killer

BY AUDREY MAGEL IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

MO MOWLAM has ordered an inquiry after a convicted IRA killer escaped from the Maze prison dressed as a woman.

The Northern Ireland Secretary said the escape was an appalling lapse of security. "I want to find out what happened and make sure it doesn't happen again, she said yesterday.

Police on both sides of the border are searching for Liam Averill, 32, who was sentenced to life imprisonment for the murder of two Protestants shortly before the IRA announced its 1994 ceasefire. He was smuggled out of prison with a group of women and children attending a Christmas party on Wednesday.

Averill, who is not married and has no children. was one of 148 prisoners attending the party in the prison gym. The event is normally for prisoners partners and children but Averill's sister and child-

ren were allowed to attend. According to prison sources, he dressed up in women's clothing, believed to have been smuggled into the prison the previous day. He left in the prison bus with the women and children in the early evening. The bus dropped him

outside in the car park. Prison officials were totally unaware of the escape until Padraic Wilson, the IRA commanding officer of Republican prisoners, told a prison warden to check the number of prisoners.

Averili was found guilty in 1994 of murdering two men: Alan Smith, a 40year-old UDR soldier, and John McCloy. 28. in Garvagh, Co London-derry. Frances Smith, the dead soldier's mother, yesterday said that Averill should never be allowed to see daylight again".



Averill: killed two Protestants in 1994

Christmas Day December

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Boxing Day

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THE funeral of the Leeds and Scotland soccer star Billy Bremner turned into a twohour celebration of a great sporting life yesterday.

Father Jerry Harney told the mourners that he saw Bremner play in a European Cup semi-final against Celtic. "I saw him crack one in from 40 yards and the throngs just went wild with joy.

"It was an immortal moment. Billy served his country at football with passion and pride; it was the only way he

Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, had flown back from Italy after his side's 1-0 defeat by Juventus the night before. He said of Bremner: I had known him for a long time. He still had the same great enthusiasm for Leeds. He was a great player for Leeds and Scotland." Bremner died suddenly a

week ago, two days before his 55th birthday, after suffering a suspected heart attack at his home in Conisborough, South Yorkshire. He was cremated at Rosehill crematorium, near Doncaster, after a funeral service at St Mary's Church, New Edlington, where hundreds of fans, many in tears, stood outside in silence to listen to the Mass.

Among the mourners were many of Bremner's fellow players in the great Leeds





Mourners clockwise from top left: Paul Reaney, Alex Ferguson, Norman Hunter and Allan Clarke

1970s, including Eddie Gray. Peter Lorimer, Terry Yorath. Norman Hunter, Allan Clarke, Paul Reaney, Terry Cooper, Johnny Giles and Gordon McQueen.

Clarke gave a reading during the service and Lorimer said afterwards: "It's such a tragedy that he died so young. but I am proud to have known

him and to have had the honour of playing with him." Also present were the former Manchester United stars, Nobby Stiles and Joe Jordan. as well as David Batty, playing in the current Newcastle United team, and the Barnsley

manager, Danny Wilson. The coffin, covered with

flowers in the Leeds colours of

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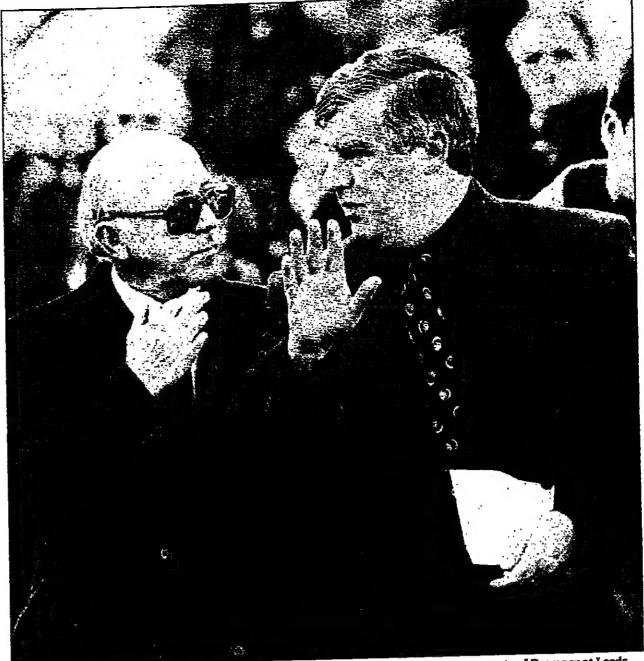
followed into the church by Bremner's wife, Vicki, and his children, Billy, Donna and

Among the tributes was a wreath from Gordan Strachan and Gary McAllister, who followed Bremner as team captains. Their card read: "To Leeds United's greatest captain. It is an honour to follow in your footsteps."

During the two-hour service Alex Smith, one of Bremner's childhood friends, spoke of the small man making a big impression from his earliest days. "One evening in 1956, I was playing for an amateur side in Stirling," he said. There were about 15 of us training. This little lad sidled up at the side of the park and asked if he could get a game. He was 13's at the time and because he was so small he was told he couldn't play.

But I spoke up for him as I wanted to even up the sides. It was one of the best moves I ever did because he played on my side. He was the best schoolboy footballer I have ever seen, he could dribble, pass, shoot and tackle.

"Arsenal and Chelsea thought Billy was too small. But at 15 he went to Leeds and even played against Stanley Matthews who was 46 at the time. He was a clever player and so skilful. He was a leader of men. He had a burning ambition and a wonderful



Nobby Stiles, the former Manchester United player, talking to Peter Lorimer, a teammate of Bremner at Leeds



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Refugee in sex attack faces being deported

AN African refugee, who was housed and given Income Support after arriving in Dover as a stowaway aboard a ship, attempted to rape a 23year-old woman ten months later, an Old Bailey judge was

rold yesterday.
Freddy Kitosi, 25, had so abused Britain's hospitality that Judge Ann Goddard, QC. jailed him for six years and recommended him for deportation even though she was told that he faced death in his homeland, Burundi. Kitosi is a Hutu, a tribe that was said to have been massacred by the

dominant Tutsi tribesmen. But the judge said: "I am not in a position to assess your position if you are returned there." She said that she had decided that his continued presence was detrimental to this country and it would be for the Home Secretary to decide whether the deportation order should be carried out. Kitosi was said to have been caught because of the bravery of a passer-by.

12 MONTHS

Alan Jones, 40, a restaura-teur, was awarded £200 by the judge as a token of the court's appreciation. He was said to have leapt over a fence when he heard a woman screaming in long grass at Brook Green, Hammersmith, West London, on March 5.

Stephen Holt, prosecuting, said that Kitosi had been strangling his 23-year-old victim, an hotel management trainee, into submission. When he saw Mr Jones running towards him he fled. After a long chase, during which he had threatened to shoot Mr Jones, he was caught and arrested.

Kitosi, of Hammersmith, pleaded guilty at an earlier hearing and was convicted of attempted rape. He had arrived in Dover in May 1996.

Burglars' victim, 90, dies in hospital

A MURDER inquiry has been launched after an elderly widower died without regaining consciousness II days after being left bound and gagged overnight by thieves who ransacked his unheated home.

Thomas Hali, 90, a retired civil servant who was appointed an MBE for his work with the health service, suffered a stroke during the attack at his detached house in the Heaton district of Newcastle upon Tyne, where he was watching elevision.

Detective Chief Inspector Tan Sharp promised to catch the culprits "no maner wha lengths we have to go to". He said: "Someone out there knows who was responsible for this utterly appalling and cruel crime. Mr Hall was an innocent old man sitting peacefully in his own home when it was violated and he was beaten and bound up

before being left to die. "He was a good man who worked hard enough to be awarded the honour of MBE. No one deserves this and Mr Hall most certainly did not."

He said there was a £5,000 reward for information leading to a conviction. "There are some crimes that are so low that known criminals will help the police, and I believe this is one of them," he said.

Mr Hall was beaten, bound and gagged and then tied to a chair by the raiders who ransacked his house. They disconnected his telephone and cut off the electricity supply, switching off his heating. Mr Hall was not found until

the next morning when his home help discovered him suffering from hypothermia, still tied in his chair. Staff at Newcastle General Hospital fought to save him, but he died yesterday, still unconscious.

Shakespeare land deed fails to sell

By A STAFF REPORTER

ONE of only 13 existing documents known to have been handled by William Shakespeare failed to sell at Sotheby's yesterday.

A deed by which the play-wright purchased 107 acres of land in Stratford-upon-Avon, the only such Shakespearean document still in private hands, had been expected to sell for up to £300,000. Instead, bidding came to a

halt at £200,000, well below the auctioneers' low estimate or the vendor's reserve. The deed was, the auctioneers admitted, an "unprepossessing" legal notice, but it showed that the land near Stratford had been bought by Shakespeare in 1602.

Experts thought it unlikely any other document relating so closely to the dramatist

would ever come up for sale. The other 12 documents referring to his private life are owned by public institutions in Britain and America.

Shakespeare paid £320 for the land. Peter Beal, of Sotheby's, said: "At today's prices that is about £150,000, so this shows how Shakespeare had prospered." The document "would have been worth millions" had it been signed by him.

The land - two field: known as Toppe and Unde Rowley near the preser Guild Street, and ten acres i water meadows - is no covered by houses.

The deed had been offer

for sale by the trustees of t estate of the Earl of Warwi and may now be reoffered



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Garden created from dump must be ploughed up

THE retired couple who spent almost £10,000 and eight years turning a rubbish tip into a garden have lost their year-long fight against a council ban. They have been told to plough the site up because it plough the site up because it does not have planning

permission. In 1989, Martin and Pauline Leadley paid a farmer £8,000 for an acre of green belt behind their home in the village of Cropwell Butler, Nottinghamshire. It was being used as a dump and they took up the back-break-ing challenge of shifting the rusting bikes, cookers, car parts, tyres and mattresses before starting their garden.

Last year Rushcliffe Borough Council said the couple had broken planning laws and would have to return the site to its original state. After protests, the council has decided that the garden must be replaced by 90 trees, planted at the Leadleys' expense by next March.

Mrs Leadley, 68, said: "It was just an awkward corner of the field as far as the farmer was concerned. Now all that work will go to waste. It's been very stressful and caused a lot of sleepless nights. In a way, I'm glad it's over, but we're both very disappointed it's

"The only alternative was to fight the council in the courts A retired couple's

eight-year project will be sacrificed

to planning

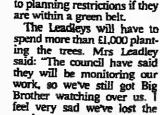
laws, reports

Adam Fresco

on an appeal, but we've spo-ken to people who have taken similar action and we've learnt that that could take up to five years and cost thousands of pounds. We are both coming up to 70 years of age and we certainly don't feel like a five-year fight. We have already found the last year stressful enough.
"It's been very difficult

because we are keen gardeners and half the enjoyment of gardening is in the anticipa-tion. Every seed you sow, you think, 'I wonder whether I'll actually see a flower grow? Now we know that won't happen. All the flowers in the

garden will have to go." When the couple bought the land, it never occurred to them that they would need planning permission. Gardens are considered to be part of residential development and subject



garden." Jim Collinson, the bor-ough's assistant director of planning, said: "The council has been far from bureaucratle about this. We've been flexible, carried out negotiations and reached an agreement with the Leadleys. There were many options open to them — they could have grazed sheep on the land.

"They will have to pay for the work and carry it out since they have built something without getting permission first. The remedy is in their hands. It was a very important principle which has been resolved in a flexible and sensi-



The acre of green belt that the Leadleys bought for £8,000: "It was just an awkward corner of the field as far as the farmer was concerned"



Martin and Pauline Leadley: flowers will have to go

Student jumped to death in 🤼 essay panic

By ADAM FRESCO

A STUDENT jumped to his death after two weeks at Cambridge University. because he panicked about being unable to finish an essay on time, an inquest was told vesterday.

Jack Davies, 18, a language student at Queens' College, had already missed two other deadlines. After a night out with friends when he appeared to be in a good mood. he returned to his room to try to finish his work. His body was found at the bottom of the four-storey building.

Nat Cary, a Home Office pathologist, told the inquest in Cambridge that two small knife wounds had been found on the student's body, one on his lower chest and one on his left wrist. A small kitchen knife was in his room.

Mr Davies had A-grade A levels in English, Music and French. The Coroner, John Smith, said: "I think there is no doubt whatsoever that Jack did go to the roof and clam-

274

bered over the parapet.

"He did appear to have an essay to finish. There was extreme concern on his part that he didn't want to be late, because he had missed a couple of deadlines.

He did intend to finish this essay. I think he became more and more apprehensive about it. This is one of those cases where his anxiety grew into a feeling of panic. I think it was probably under those sort of circumstances that he went to the roof and what happened, happened."

Mr Smith recorded an open verdict, saying it was clear that the teenager was responsible for his own death, but that there was not sufficient evidence for him to record a suicide verdict

After the hearing, the student's mother, Ann Davies, of Nutley, East Sussex, said that her son appeared to have no problems after beginning college. She said: "He was very excited about going there. He found it frantic, but fun. He was a very talented, bright young man, very gifted and very academic. He had a great sense of humour and lots of

friends. Cambridge University has its own counselling service, set up 28 years ago. It helps an average of 140 students a week.

NEWS IN BRIEF Police to mark cards for thieves

Police at Holbeck, Leeds, are delivering Christmas cards with a warning message to burglars suspected of plagu-ing households with break-ins last December. On the card is a robin and star with the words "Season's Greet-ings", but inside is the pledge that "Holbeck police will be actively targeting known bur-glars this Christmas" and telephone numbers for the CID office and Crimestop-pers. Suspects will also be given a verbal warning when the cards are delivered.

TV licence up £6

The cost of a television licence is to rise by £6 in the biggest increase for more than a decade, the Government has announced. From next April the cost of a colour licence will increase from £91.50 to £97.50, and a black and white licence from £30.50 to £32.50.

Prisons post

Pauline Clare, the Chief Constable of Lancashire, is to join the Prisons Board as an adviser to Richard Tilt, Direc-tor-General of the Prison Service. She will be one of four non-executive directors of the board and will take up her post in January.

Surprise buy

Surplus boxes of clementine oranges bought at Dover docks were found contain cannabis worth £40,000. The buyer. Tim Hayes, of World-wide Fruit in Folkestone, called Customs and Excise. He said: "It brightened up an otherwise duil market day."

Suitably Bond

A tuxedo-style suit worn by Sean Connery in the James Bond film Diamonds are Forever sold for £9,775 at Christie's in London yesterday. The last of 19 items of Bond memorabilia was bought by Michael Eisenburg, 33, an American.

Shell-shocked

Toddles the tortoise survived a bin lorry's rubbish crusher after been thrown out with the garden and household waste. The tortoise was found at the dump and returned to John Mullen, 57, of Portchester, Hampshire, who has owned it since he was II.





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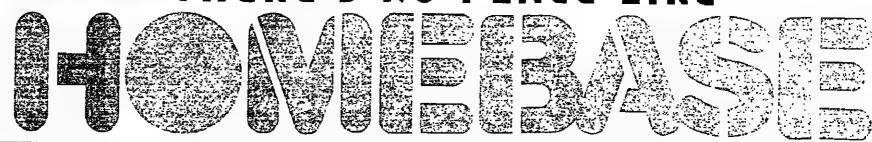
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PLAN to throw Tory leadernip elections open to a traight vote of the members rith no special role for MPs in ne final decision is gaining round in the parliamentary

The proposal is being tacked by a growing number of new Tory MPs and frontxenchers, and privately by everal members of the Shadiw Cabinet. They assert that it would make the Tories one of he most democratic parties in western Europe, and far more so than the modernised Labour Party.

At present MPs are the only people with a vote in the party leadership election. Under the new plan they would retain the right to prompt a leadership election, and they would choose a shortlist of two or three candidates. But thereafter their special role would end. They would have just one vote — as party members not as MPs — and it would carry the same weight as that of the hundreds of thousands of ordinary members.

There would be no need for a complicated electoral college to determine the election. The membership would decide in a hallor. The one member, one vote (OMOV) idea has grown more attractive to MPs as a behind-the-scenes struggle has erupted between the Tory Old Guard and the new intake over increasing the say for

The Young Turks are pushing for members to have at

MPs are being urged to outstrip Labour with leadership election

changes. Philip Webster reports

Jeast 35 per cent of the vote in an electoral college, with the MPs restricted to 60 per cent. The Old Guard want the figure for members restricted to 25 per cent at most, and a handful, including the former Cabinet minister Douglas Hogg, want to resist pressure for a bigger role for activists. The OMOV plan could be seen as a compromise because it would still give MPs the key say on who went forward for election; this would be designed to meet the argument of those who argue that great-

Horam: delighted by

growth in support

the party in the country choosing the candidate who might have been second or third on the MPs' list. Under virtually all the electoral college options the parliamentary party would have the right to prompt elections and nomier membership democracy nate candidates. The OMOV plan is backed by several frontbenchers and former ministers, including John Horam, the Treasury spokesman Tim Boswell, Robert Jackson and Richard

risks the parliamentary party

having foisted on it a candi-

date in whom it might have no

By appearing on the shortlist all the candidates

would clearly have respectable

backing among MPs. But

there would be nothing to stop

The new members who have voiced support for it include James Gray, Andrew Lansley, Keith Simpson, Teresa May and Howard Flight. William Hague, who favours a big increase in party democracy, is reported by colleagues to view the idea with interest. and some of his closest allies in the Shadow Cabinet and on the front bench believe it would be a radical advance in modernising the party.

much power in the hands of MPs because of their sole right to nominate. However, some privately admit that a 100 per cent OMOV system for the election itself would be a huge advance for party democracy on a system in which until now the MPs have held all the cards. At present the option of an electoral college with a 35-40 per cent vote for members remains the most likely outcome of the debate among MPs that will end next week.

Mr Horam said yesterday that it was "not yet a majority view but that he had been delighted by the growth in support for the proposal. "In my view it would send an electric current through Brit-ish politics," he said. "We would overtake Labour in terms of party democracy and the prospect of fuller participation would help us attract The plan, however, would

be more than many some senior members of the 1922 Committee could stomach. Sir Archibald Hamilton, the chairman, has repeatedly made clear that MPs must have the dominant role.

He said last week: "We don't want to overreach ourselves so that we end up with a leader of the party who does not commajority of the parliamentary party. The higher the percentage that goes to the outside, the more likely that will



WHEN is a party not a party? When it is held at the taxpayer's expense, it seems.

It was a subject exercising the minds of Whitehall press officers yesterday after it was disclosed that eight govern-ment departments spent a total \$7.4 million on "official hospitality" in the five months after Labour came to power.

The figures, supplied by ministers in response to writ-ten questions from the Liberal Democrat Treasury spokes-man, Malcolm Bruce, were released on Wednesday evening as Tony Blair welcomed relebrity guests such as the actor John Thaw, the disc jockeys Chris Evans and Zoe

Whitehall rejects the party line as bill tops £7m

the television thef duo Two Downing Street bash since May I. At the same time, 47 Labour MPs were preparing to rebel against a cut in single parent benefit that will cost new claimants up to £11 a

week from April Mr Bruce accused the Gov-£7.4 million would more than cover the cost of maintaining benefit levels next year for new claims by single parents. A Downing Street spokes-man was quick to point out hat the Cabinet Office, whose

hospitality budget covers Downing Street, had spent only £18,789 on entertaining between May 1 and September 30. He was also anxious to between £2.000 and £3,000 each. "I wouldn't call them parties as such. They are what we call general receptions."

He said that they offered

the Prime Minister a chance meet people from all walks of life and thank them for their contribution. media concentrate simply on well-known faces from the arts, entertainment and the media ... that sometimes gives a mistaken impression that these are some sort of

showbusiness party, which actually they are not." A Treasury spokesman ac-knowledged that much of the department's £193,000 expenditure on hospitality had been spent on parties. But he between what some might call a party and others might call a

Health - hospitality bill £56,000 for five months - a been no "major receptions". However, she admitted to "a few small getting to knowyou meetings".

A spokeswoman for the Department for the Environment. Transport and the Regions said that its £165,000 bill covered everything from the tea and biscuits given to journalists at press conferences to the catering for big events. Asked whether it covered parties, she said: You mean official ministerial functions? Yes."

Only the Department of Culture, Media and Sport was prepared to admit throwing a party, perhaps because, with a hospitality bill of £7,000 for five months, it can claim to be the lowest spender to submit figures so far. The Foreign Office was the biggest spender, sdoending £4.8 million on

'Usual suspects' joined by rebel newcomers

By James Landale and Jill Sherman

THE names of Ken Livingstone and Dennis Skinner have long been familiar among the ranks of Labour dissenters. But Wednesday ernment's plans to cut singleparent benefits revealed a previously unknown pool of rebels whose cards have been

marked by the whips. In total, 47 Labour MPs defied the Government and voted against the cuts. Of those, 22 were members of the Campaign Group of hard-left MPs. These included MPs such as Mr Livingstone, Mr Skinner, Tony Benn, Diane Abbott and Jeremy Corbyn. The whins refer to them as

'the usual suspects". The rebels also included well-known campaigners for single parents' rights such as. Alice Mahon, Maria Pyte, Roger Berry and Gwyneth Dunwoody. But 12 MPs from the new general election in-take also voted against the Government, They were Har-old Best, Martin Caton, David Chaytor, John Cryer, Hilton Dawson, Jim Dobbin, lan Gibson, Brian Iddon, Kelvin Hopkins, Mike Wood, Ian Stewart and John McDonnell.

A further 57 Labour MPs did not take part in the vote. Some 20 of those, including four Cabinet ministers - Robin Cook, John Prescott, Jack Straw, and Michael Meacher - had been given formal leave

by the whips to miss the vote. But 14 MPs, many of whom spoke against the move, pointedly abstained while remaintained some familiar rebels such as Julie and Rhodri Morgan, the husband and wife MPs from Cardiff North and West, and George Gallo-way, Chris Mullin and Harry Cohen.

But the rebel abstainers also included some new MPs: Diana Organ, William Rammell. Tony McWalter, John Naysmith and Huw Edwards.

Of the 23 other abstainers, some had been given the week off to spend time in their constituencies and were not required to vote. But others abstained by staying out of the chamber during the division. In effect, the 47 rebels and 25

deliberate abstainers combine to form a band of MPs who may defy the whips again. Many, especially the old guard, are those overlooked by Tony Blair when he appointed his Government. The new mavericks are those who realise that their chances of preferment are neglible given the hundreds of ultra-loyal new Labour MPs and who believe that a principled - if disloyal - stand will best

ensure their re-election. Yesterday they found that the Chief Whip, Nick Brown, had shed his traditional man-

trophic, which cannot be

Sir Rocco, 52, has begun

said for the rest of us".

tle of harsh discipline in the ing in the chamber. These forms of severe disciplinary rate abstainers con- action for anyone who voted against the third reading of the Social Security Bill. Suspension under new rules introduced this year means that MPs are unable to attend parliamentary party meetings, or backbench committees, do not get information from the whips about votes and are generally ostracised at Westminster. Suspended MPs are also unable to attend official constituency meetings

or take part in party functions. Yesterday the whips chose instead to report three MPs to the National Executive Committee and give the other 44 MPs who voted against the Government "a dressing down". Over the years MPs are said to have broken down in the Chief Whip's office at 12 Downing Street and his room in the Commons. The whips know a huge amount about MPs' personal and profession-

Yesterday Mr Brown and his team were keeping silent for fear of aggravating a delicate situation but all 47 MPs are to be seen by either him or his assistants over the next few weeks.

> Leading article and Letters, page 23

Forte for funds at Tory think-tank

By Nicholas Wood

SIR ROCCO FORTE, who salvaged a £300 million family fortune out of the humiliating loss of his father's hotel chain, has been made treasurer of one of the main Conservative think-tanks. He will take over from the Dixons boss Sir Stanley Kalms as the chief fund-raiser for the Centre for Policy Studies in

building up a new business empire. RF Hotels. Mrs Keswick said he had been a regular supporter of Tory gatherings. He's interested in the CPS. He will attend the new year. Tessa Keswick, director of the Centre founded by Marboard meetings and be garet Thatcher and Sir takes an interest in policy. Keith Joseph in the mid-1970s, said yesterday that Sir I'd say he's centre-right." Rocco's job would be to raise "zillions of pounds" to Sir Rocco's appointment is the latest move aimed at underpin a Tory policy re-vival. Sir Stanley will stay re-establishing the CPS as the premier Tory think tank.

The former minister David Willetts has become the CPS

band is the banking tycoon Henry Keswick, said that Sir Rocco had made modest personal contributions to the CPS: "He's going to pick everybody eise's pockets now," she said. The CPS finances were "not catas-

Sir Rocco: job to raise "zillions of pounds"

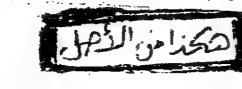
deputy chairman while having day-to-day responsi-bility for William Hague's policy review. Nearly two years ago, Sir

Rocco, then executive chairman of the Forte Group, lost a £3.8 billion takeover barde to Granada. Among the spoils from the company were the Calé Royale, the Waldorf, the Grosvenor House Hotel in Park Lane, and the Happy Eater chain patronised by John Major.

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So far so good, but Labour's commitment has yet to be tested

THE Government has been as ciple in a generalised good-good — and, in some respects, government way, but often hardgood - and, in some respects, better - than its pre-election promises over freedom of infor-mation. David Clark has recently been one of the Cabinet's more beleaguered members. But after lengthy debates in Lord Irvine of Lairg's committee on freedom of information, he has naveiled one of the most radical policy statements since May in his White Paper Your Right to Know. As the Campaign for Freedom of Information argues, this offers the prospect of a real change in

access to official information.

Freedom of information is an

clusive concept, desirable in prin-

er to define in practice. If it is to be worthwhile, it must be much more than a charter for the anoraks of the media and single interest groups to ferret around in public files. Dr Clark has learnt from overseas experience on his much criticised foreign travels, and the White Paper strikes the right balance. It strengthens the right of individ-uals to access to official information affecting them while not threatening the ability of ministers and civil servants to take decisions in an ordered way after discussing all options in private.

The proposals go significantly further than the existing Code of Practice in providing access to documents, not just information, and in its scope. They will involve the whole of the public sector, including the NHS, schools, the armed forces, public service broadcasters, privatised utilities and private bodies carrying out statutory duties on behalf of government. There are also fewer exemptions than now, notably national security, law enforcement, personal privacy and com-mercial confidentiality. In most cases, information can only be withheld if disclosure would

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

most important exemption is what the White Paper describes as "the integrity of the decisionmaking and policy advice pro-cesses in government": Sir Humphrey's chats with ministers. In this case, a less demanding

'simple" harm test would apply. Dr Clark claims that as much factual and background material, as opposed to policy advice, will be published. For instance, in the recent tobacco sponsorship

asked to justify claims about 50,000 job losses if Formula One left Britain, though civil service advice on how to handle the negotiations would have been protected. Similarly, Gordon Brown could, and should, be asked to provide the internal analysis about his claims that the new individual savings accounts will encourage a new class of

The White Paper also sets out a simple and sensible enforcement regime. In particular, a new independent Information Commissioner will be created, akin to the Data Protection Registrar. He or she will have the power to

order disclosure, compared with the present right of the parliamentary ombudsman only to recommend disclosure. The commissioner will also review charges made by public bodies. though the whole area of fees needs to be clarified. There will not be a further right of appeal to the courts.

As Rhodri Morgan, chairman of the Public Administration Committee pointed out in the Commons, much will depend on the identity of the first commissioner and the exercise of his or ber powers. It is unsatisfactory that he or she will be appointed by the Prime Minister without

involving Parliament. The Commons should confirm the appointment and oversee the commissioner's activities. The commissioner should also not be a retired permanent secretary or the like and have too cosy a relationship with Whitehall, as a number of utility regulators have with their industries. He or she needs to be seen to be independent. The Government has gone a long way. But only implementation, and a few bruising rows. will establish the genuineness of commitment

PETER RIDDELL

Ministers set out vision for new era of openness

PLANS to end the traditional culture of secrecy in govern-ment and the public services by giving the public a legal right to know were set out yesterday in a White Paper on Freedom of Information.

The proposed new laws, which could be in force within two years, will apply across government and will include thousands of public bodies, quangos, the NHS, local government, schools, colleges, universities, the armed forces, the administrative functions of police and courts, the BBC, the private utility companies and many other private concerns — including Camelot, the National Lottery operator which carry out statutory

functions for the government. Information and actual documentation will be withheld only if disclosure would cause "substantial harm" - a test which would give Britain the most open laws on freedom of information in the world. Only the release of official advice to ministers will come under the tougher test of whether disclosure would cause harm - a move insisted on by Mr Blair on the basis that "the Government needed space to conduct its business".

But even if a minister or . partment refuses to disclose information, an individual

Valerie Elliott

on moves to end the culture of

secrecy in

government

directly to a new independent Information Commissioner. who would be answerable to the courts, not to rainisters, About 200 laws which spe cifically prohibit release of information will be repealed

or changed. The proposals went further than campaigners had ever imagined after David Clark, the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, won the crucial backing of Tony Blair for the reforms which will be retrospective and could open up thousands of historic records.

Mr Blair, in a foreword to the White Paper, said: "The traditional culture of secrecy will only be broken down by giving people in the UK the legal right to know." He said the move was "a fundamental and vital change in the relationship between government and the governed".

all documents including Cabinet and Cabinet committee papers which are not covered under the present code on access to information, and will have the power to order disclo-

He will have to consider the harm tests in relation to seven criteria:

Dinational security, defence and international relations □ law enforcement ☐ personal privacy

commercial confidentiality the safety of the individual, the public and the environ-☐ Information supplied in

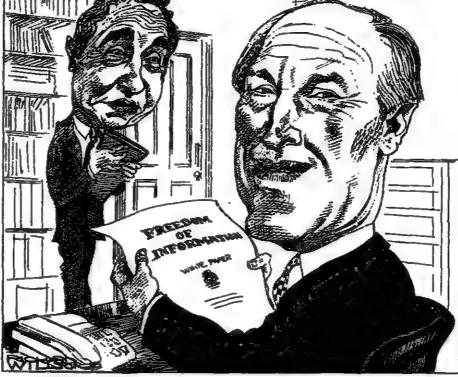
confidence ☐ The integrity of the decision-making and policy advice processes in government

The security and intelligence services are excluded from the proposed new laws. So, too, are papers relating to criminal prosecutions, and government personnel files. If the government or an individual is still unhappy

with a decision, they may seek

a judicial review in the courts,

but will not have an automatic right of appeal before a judge. A new criminal offence for the wilful or reckless destruction, alteration or withholding The new commissioner, to ministers, officials and staff



BUT MINISTER, EVEN THE P.M. WOULD KNOW WHAT WE WERE UP TO,"

organisations. The new Commissioner will able to apply He was determined the new for a warrant to enter or laws should help the ordinary search premises, and to recitizen, not commercial interests. He said that the proposmove documents, if there is

als "would transform this any suspicion that papers are being withheld. country from one of the most All requests will cost an closed democracies in the initial ElO and departments world to one of the most open". will then be able to charge extra costs for the time taken to identify the information.

Dr Clark's proposals were generally welcomed by MPs and he seemed to brush off the furore over the leaking of the of records" will apply to details of the White Paper to the BBC earlier this week. He will be able to take his case be appointed by the Prime working for designated public told the Commons that his

inquiry was "progressing".

Maurice Frankel, director of the Campaign for the Freedom of Information, said last night: This is a substantial reform that for the first time will give the British public a genuine right to know what its government is doing in its

Straw heads off pressure for curbs on press

By VALERIE ELLIOTT, WHITEHALL EDITOR

MINISTERS are to safeguard the work of journalists who investigate powerful people in the public interest. The Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg, had been understood to think that there was some merit in the proposed data protection legislation being used as a privacy law, but Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, has won the support of Cabinet colleagues to prevent this.

Lord Irvine was supported by Elizabeth France, the Data Protection Registrar, who was also keen that files held by the press should be subject to access. But ministers believe the media should have a defence for legitimate activities and a "public interest" defence to deny people access to information held on

The formula was worked out by Lord Williams of Mostyn. QC, a junior Home Office Minister - and one of the country's leading libel lawyers — after consultations with media representatives and the Press Complaints Commission. A government source vesterday called the

proposal "a licence for journalists to roam".

Under the proposals, Miss France will have to get permission from a court before she can intervene on behalf of an individual for access to files

before or after publication of an article. She would be able to issue an information notice against an organisation if there was "reasonable suspicion" that the data was being held longer than necessary. and that information was being collected with no plans to publish. Only if the media refused to comply could she ask the court for a warrant to force disclosure of the files.

The Data Protection Bill, to be enacted next year alongside the European Convention of Human Rights, will implement a European Union directive giving the public the right to inspect files. The proposals are being published next week.

The Press Complaints Commission said last night: "It seems a sensible balance has been achieved between the rights of individuals and the

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The mysterious "bird flu" has killed two people. Children at primary schools with

pet zoos are being given warnings to keep their dis-

tance from chickens and not to

"If the disease spreads fur-

ther, we may close our pet

corner and the animals will be

killed," said Kung Wingtong,

The first victim of the mys-

tery flu was a Hong Kong child who attended a school

that kept baby chickens and ducks. Health officials said

they were involved in a race

against time to solve the

mystery of the H5Nl strain of

llu, which is normally con-

Medical staff at the Prince of

Wales Hospital issued a press

release saying that the au-

thorities had been slow to

react to the virus and had not

taken appropriate precau-

fined to chickens.

primary school director.

handle pet birds at home.

Wellington: The man who confessed to one of New Zealand's worst mass killings was found not guilty vesterday of six murders and four attempted murders because he was insane at the time.

It took just over two hours for the jury of eight women and four men to decide that Stephen Anderson. 25, was insane when he went on a shooting spree in the North Island hamlet of Raurimu on February S.

Anderson, appearing in the High Court at Hamilton, was ordered confined to a high-security mental health institution.

Psychiatrists had told the court Anderson was obsessed with firearms and hated police. He used drugs and had what one doctor called a flimsy hold on reality.

The announcement of the jury's verdict brought an outcry from the public gallery. (Reuters)

Pets face slaughter in Hong Kong flu scare

Doctors fear world spread of AS HEALTH experts warned that chicken-borne flu could become a pandemic disease. a chicken-borne virus, write Tom Hong Kong schools prepared for the possibility of having to destroy pet animals.

Rhodes and Jonathan Mirsky

tions. They complained that. although they are treating a 13-year-old girl with the disease, they were not immediately told of the virus. The girl is not on isolation nursing. even though it was suspected that she has contracted H5N1," they said. The isolation ward did not have special ventilation and it was possible that other patients in the hospital would be infected

with the virus, they added. The hospital said: "H5Nl is a new disease and the hospital's response is guided by the information available."

The Atlanta Centres for Disease Control, America's health agency, said last night its scientists could not rule out the possibility that the flu could become a pandemic disease. Doctors from the centres have been seconded to monitor events in Hong Kong with the virus. We want to and the agency has been holding daily meetings to discome up with a plan of action." Dr Keiji Fukuda of the cuss the new strain. "It is very hard to predict whether this will become the next pandem-

cannot rule that out as a possibility." Authorities in Guangdong, not far from Hong Kong, are monitoring chickens bound for the city. Sales of the birds have plummeted.

ic," said K.D. Hoskins, from

the agency's Atlanta head-

quarters. "At the moment we

do not see it as such but we

A senior health official in Guangdong said yesterday that many birds died last year and early this year, but claimed the symptoms found in the dead birds were different from those associated with the H5N1 virus. However, it is believed that at least a million

Guangdong chickens died of HSNI in February. Leading health authorities say that the cause of the virus is unknown. Dr Margaret Chan, Hong Kong's director of health, said: We must extend our net of investigation. It seems that we are entering into a competition

Atlanta team denied that patients contract the disease only through contact with chickens. 'It's simply not clear how the virus is being transmitted . . . It is most likely poultry to human, human to human, or some combination."

Dr Fukuda, chief of epide-miology at the Atlanta centres, added: "There are worldwide implications for this disease and the idea of it becoming a fourth pandemic is one issue we are concerned about. There are theories that southern China is a place where the next pandemic could start."

Millions have died in global epidemics this century, Span-ish flu in 1918 and Asian flu in



A vendor handling a chicken in Hong Kong where birds have been hit by the virus

WORLD IN BRIEF

Kohl loses nuclear shelter in cash cut

Bonn: Helmut Kohl's refuge from nuclear war, a bunker dug deep into the sloping vineyards outside Bonn, is to be closed to save money and keep Germany on track for European economic and monetary union (Roger Boyes writes). The concrete warren, used by Nazi slave labourers to build engines for V2 rockets, may soon be used to grow mushrooms or store wine. The complex. which may have been connected by tunnels to the Defence Ministry 12 miles away, has been regarded as one of the most closely guarded secrets of the German state. It contains a Cabinet room, a parliamentary chamber, kitchens, huge food stores, a hospital and a communications centre.

Children held by fugitive

Orlando: A murder suspect holding two children hostage told his family he might commit suicide, but police said he had assured them he would not harm himself. Police remained optimistic that John Edward Armstrong, a professional criminal who was freed from prison early, would eventually release Malcolm Phillips, four, and his two-year-old cousin, Tedi Priest.

Armstrong was fleeing police, who suspected him of killing a man and wounding a woman. "He's real tired. He's working through what his options are." Captain Sal Lomonaco. commander of the negotiating team, said. (AP)

Harare union chief attacked

Harare Morgan Tsvangirai, Zimbabwe's main trade union chief, was attacked and injured by unidentified assailants who invaded his office, two days after organising unprecedented anti-tax protests against Robert Mugabe's Government, his union group said. The Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions said it suspected the attackers of trying to kill Mr Tsvangirai, its secretary-general. He was cut above the right eye after being hit a chair and a knookerme wielded dy who stormed the premises, (Reuters)

Suharto banishes rumours

Jakarta: Relaxed and smiling, President Suharto, right, was seen on Indonesian television yesterday in his first public appearance since rumours started that he was seriously ill or dead. Indonesia's currency fell by II per cent earlier this week. The 76-year-old President, who has been ordered by his doctors to rest for ten days, was shown seated at home, chatting with a Cabinet minister and one of his three daugh-ters. He is said to suffer from hypertension and kidney stones. (Reuters)



Russian air crash kills eight

Moscow: A cargo plane struck a helicopter on a runway at Naryanmar, northern Russia, killing eight people, a spokesman for the Ministry for Emergency Situations said. The Mis helicopter with 16 people on board had just landed when it was clipped by the wing of a landing Antonov An12, the ministry's duty officer said. He added that all those who died had been about the helicopter. The two pilots of the mean when the aboard the helicopter. The two pilots of the cargo plane were seriously injured. (AP)

\$387,500 for Bernstein piano

New York: A piano owned and autographed by Leonard Bernstein, the composer and conductor, sold for \$387,500 (£236,000) at Sotheby's. It was expected to fetch about \$80,000 but last-minute telephone bidding by an American physician boosted the sale price. Proceeds from the auction of the late conductor's personal effects totalled \$720,000 and will go to the Bernstein Education Through the Arts Fund. (Reuters)

Poll boost for Lafontaine



Bonn: Oskar Lafontaine, left, the Social Democrat (SPD) leader who has has long been labelled a loser, has for the first time beaten Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, in a public opin-ion poll, The ZDF poll showed Herr Lafontaine beating Herr Kohl by 44 to 43 per cent, only ten months before general elections. However Gerhard Schröder, Herr Lafontaine's chief rival in the SPD, came top, with 57 per cent choosing him in preference to 32 per cent for Herr Kohl. (AFP)

Explorer Polunin dies at 88

Geneva: Professor Nicholas Polunin, an early environmentalist and an explorer who discovered the last major islands to be added to the world map, has died in Geneva. He was 88. Educated at Oxford, Harvard and Yale. Polunin is credited with discovering two large islands in Canada's Arctic archipelago in 1946, Prince Charles and Air Force Islands in Hudson Bay. (AP)

Inspectors' hidden agenda

Santiago: Chile's mid-term legislative election was delayed at many polling stations as authorities failed to find enough citizens to serve as inspectors. Reports said that many people bid in bushes, feigned illness or locked themselves in bathrooms to avoid being summoned to do their legal duty. (Reuters)

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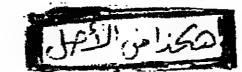
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Greenpeace bran gases pact a fare

Rangers deliv unhappy endi for three bear

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US senators vow to kill off climate deal

Despite chorus of hostility, Clinton

THE United States will not ratify the new international climate change treaty for years, if ever, senators said yesterday, as they queued up to declare that the agreement reached in Kyoto was dead in

What we have here is not ratifiable in the Senate in my judgement," John Kerry, a Democrat and an observer of the 11-day talks, said as exhausted negotiators from 166 countries reached a final agreement described as the most complex non-military accord in history. Chuck Hagel, a Republican, said: "There is no way that the vote in the US Senate will even be close. We will kill this Bill."

The agreement, which seemed unachievable until the eleventh hour, was reached only after significant concessions by the US to the European Union and developing countries. But the implacable opposition of much of the Senate to the final version appears to dash President Clinton's hopes of early and

pledges to keep faith with Kyoto treaty, Bronwen Maddox reports

the US to the condemnation of other industrialised countries. Environmentalists, who had hailed the treaty as the most important environmental accord yet reached, began yesterday to focus on the likelihood that it would be seriously undermined by the refusal of the world's largest economy to commit itself to the legally binding targets. The support of two thirds of

the Senate is needed for the US to ratify the treaty. Under the Kyoto accord, industrialised countries have committed themselves to reduce emission of greenhouse gases by 6 per cent or more below 1990 levels by 2012. The US has agreed to cuts of 7 per cent and the European Union

to 8 per cent. The US won one battle -

urged the President to wait until further international meetings next year to address dioxide and five other gases. the questions of tradeable rather than the three gases permits and developing counrecommended by other countries before putting the treaty to the Senate. But supporters tries. But it lost two important battles: to set up a system of of the Bill fear that this would "tradeable permits" allowing push ratification beyond the countries to buy the right to November 1998 congressional pollute from each other, and to elections into the countdown bring developing countries for the 2000 presidential race. The Administration has into the accord.

resolution that the US would not commit itself to a meaty that did not impose curbs on eloping countries. In its last-minute decision to sign, the White House was swayed by the desire not to antagonise the environmental lobby, Vice-President Al Gore,

the agreement "historic" and

Before the Kyoto talks, the Senate voted 95 to zero for a

Yesterday heavy industry, coal, oil, cars and electricity joined forces to battle the accord, arguing that the curbs will resemble the energy who attended the talks, has courted this group in his bid for the presidency in 2000. shocks of the 1970s. President Clinton, who called

severe economic pain.

Gore with helping to bring

about a "realistic and achiev-

able commitment. Demo-

cratic senators yesterday

indicated that, if Senate ratifi-

cation is not forthcoming, it

will still make a "good faith" effort to comply with the main provisions. Mr Clinton says

he believes the US can make

cuts in emissions without

Leading article, page 23



Pelé: determined to end fraud and slavery in football

Pelé tackles clubs over corruption

From Gabriella Gamini in rio de Janeiro

THE Brazilian Congress has approved a law proposed by Pele, the football icon, aimed at stamping out the corruption that has for decades characterised the clubs managing the multimillion-dollar sport. The Pele Law, named after

Brazil's "King of Football". still needs the Senate's vote of approval and has to be signed by President Cardoso before it can be implemented. But Pele, whose real name is Edson Arames do Nascimento and who has championed the new law since he was appointed Brazil's Minister for Sports in 1995, celebrated yesterday saying: "It means the end of slavery and widespread corrupnon in Brazilian football " Congressional approval, he said, meant that his "battle was almost won".

The law gives Brazilian clubs two years to become private commercial companies, which means they can have their accounts scrurinised by tax collectors and investors. Brazil's 5.000 football clubs are described as non-profitmaking institutions but they deal with multimillion-dollar player transfers and are not subject to control.

Club directors and regional and national football federations voiced the most outspoken opposition to the new law. The opposition from the club managers and federation heads is because they don't want transparency in the multimillion-dollar deals. which they have so far managed with no controls whatso ever," said Pelê

The law proposes reducing the time before players be-come owners of their own contracts.

They will be obliged to fulfil an initial two-year professional contract with the club that grained them, and give first accord contract, but from then on they can negotiate directly with new clubs

Hundreds of Brazilian players have been bought by foreign clubs and controversy has surrounded their transfers because their local clubs managed the deals. Under the Pelé Law, clubs will be able to organise provincial and regional championships independently of football erations, which in Brazii have been tainted by corruption and nepotism for decades

Greenpeace brands gases pact a farce

London: While world leaders hailed the Kyoto agreement on greenhouse gases yesterday, the environmental group Greenpeace dismissed it as "a tragedy and a farce", and other conference delegates felt it did not go far epough.

"This is not good enough for the future." Ritt Bjerregaard, the European Union's Environment Commissioner, said in Kyoto. "We would have liked the parties to be more ambitious. Germany said it would

probably stick to its goal ofcutting emissions by 25 per cent by 2005, although under the Kyoto accord the EU as a whole was committed only to an 8 per cent cut by 2010.

Japanese businessmen expressed concern that the emission targets accepted by Japan would prove hard to meet. British business was more circumspect. "I would hope Kyoto would focus minds and bring up some of the laggards," a Saleway

Rangers deliver unhappy ending for three bears

RANGERS at Yosemite National Park have been forced to kill three black bears descended from an animal which mauled a British student in the Californian tourist spot

four years ago. Miney and her two cubs were shot with a tranquilliser and then put to sleep after being caught under cover of darkness at the scene of their latest crime, rearing their way through the back seat and the boot of a car in search of a jar of salsa, a brick of tofu and a grapefruit.

It was the latest in a bear rampage of burglary and destruction at Yosemite which has resulted in a record 600 car break-ins this year, caus-ing \$500,000 (£304,000) in

Some of the bulky animals to store food overnight in any have become so

used to human food that they no longer show any interest acorns and elderberries, the once traditional bear necessines. in question may have picked up their bad habits

from Swatter, Miney's mother. She attacked Tom Watson in a clearing in 1993 and the student from Somerset escaped serious injury by hiding in a lavatory for nine hours.

Officials believe bad blood is not part of the bear geneology. There has never been a death or a serious mauling at Yosemite by black bears, creatures for which the park has become famous.

Steve Thompson, the park's wildlife biologist, said careless humans who left food in their cars were responsible for the sudden surge in property damage. Miney and her offspring, he said, were simply hunting for food and their antics had forced rangers to

order their deaths. "Bears are smart, and some are very smart," he said. "My problems start when the smarter bears and the dumber

Yosemite's stars shun nuts and berries in favour of picnic food, writes Tom Rhodes

visitors intersect." In the past two months, attracted by the smell of a bumper apple crop near a particular campground, bears have been popping out windows, clawing through doors as if opening a can of soup, and crawling into as many as 15 cars a night. Hondas, Dodge Caravans and older Toyotas are said to be their favourite targets, but a BMW convertible has also sustained \$5,000 in damage. Federal law makes it a crime

semite. A bulle-6 Problems tin board of pictures showing bear-van-dalised cars greets visitors at Curry Village in the commercial heart of the valley. Campers are

start when the smart animals and the dumb visitors intersect 9

told either to get rid of their food or store it in recently installed lockers. But even these may not be bear-proof. Rangers have watched in awe as the animals have unscrewed peanut butter jars with their paws and opened food lockers using a paw and snout to trip the

When the park introduced municipal rubbish bins whose mouths shut like a mail box, the bears learnt to climb up, open the slot and drop in head first, with only their back legs clinging to the open door.

So the rangers' ultimate option has been the one they most dread: killing repeat offenders. Yosemite is also considering a range of sol-utions, including the removal of apple trees, a reduction in the number of car parks and even a bear contraceptive to prevent the need for any further killing.

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Sri Lankans battle to win death highway

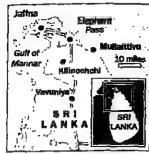
A 50-MILE stretch of narrow. pot-holed road cutting through jungle and tropical countryside in northern Sri Lanka has become the island's death highway. There has been unprecedented bloodletmilitary plane or ship, both of ting in a seven-month battle them tenuous and expensive between troops and separatist connections. rebels for control of the road.

with no end in sight to the slaughter. The outcome of the battle could mark a turning point in the decade-old war. Since May 8,500 men have died or been wounded on both sides -- horrific even by the extraordinary levels of cornage on the an-cient island of Serendip.

The army, determined to press ahead with Operation Sure Victory despite the scale of killing, has captured more than two thirds of the road yard by yard. The Tamil ligers are throwing everything into the battle, including of reemage suicide squads. It is probably the most mportant contest of the war.

of the north, providing a cheaper and safer supply lifeline for government troops. Every man, his equipment, food and clothes have to be transported to the north by

There are fears that the Tigers have acquired Stinger anti-aircraft missiles, which would end the air link if confirmed. And the Sea Tigers constantly harass military shipping. The army's worst nightmare is that its thou-



south to the Tamil heartland sands of troops on the northern Jaffna peninsular could be cut off, with catastrophic

Capture of the road would give the Government a decisive military advantage. The Tigers are already in desperare trouble on the battleground. Tamils are generally sick of them, and international sympathy has all but dried up. Voluntary donations to the

organisation have plummeted, although it continues to extract money from expatriate Tamils. British-based Tamils with family members still in Sri Lanka complain that they have been warned to pay up or risk their relatives being killed. They say they are required to give regular amounts each month to Tamil

welfare organisations. Recruitment of fighters is increasingly difficult and boys of 14 are routinely thrown into battle. The Tigers have mounted four big offensives to drive the army off the road, inflicttaining big losses themselves. Twelve miles of highway remain to be captured.

Two army divisions, or 20,000 men, are fighting on the road. G. Peiris, the Justice Minister, said opening the highway would "make a drastic impact on the fortunes of war". Velupillai Prabhakaran, the Tigers' leader, has rejected government peace efforts aimed at providing substantial autonomy to Tamil-dominated areas of the country. He

said in a rebel radio address

that the fight would go on for a

Tamil homeland, Tamil na-

tionhood and the Tamil right

to self-determination". □ Colombo: A bomb being carried by a Tamil suicide attacker went off yesterday before he reached the intended military target, killing the attacker and a scooter taxi driver transporting him, officials said. The operation, believed to be by the separatist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, was in Batticaloa, IS7

miles east of Colombo. (AFP)

Raiders kill 200 Tutsi refugees

AT LEAST 200 Tutsi refugees were killed and 200 wounded in an attack on their camp in northwest Rwanda, where they had fled from the former Zaire, UN officials said yesterday.

Reports of the attack came as Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State, met President Bizimungu of Rwanda and Vice-President Paul Kagame and then laid a wreath at a mass grave for 1,700 people massacred in Kicukiro.

Later, her plane was diverted to Luanda, the capital of Angola, after it was unable to land in Kinshasa because of a rainstorm. She headed back to Kinshasa after the delay.

The latest killings occurred overnight at the Mudende camp, which housed the refu-gees, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees said. Many refugees fled the camp, which last month sheltered about 18,000 people, to an unknown



Madeleine Albright after laying a wreath at the cemetery near Kigali yesterday

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Winnie 'does not frighten' the ANC

President of South Africa, yesterday denied that there was a campaign by the leader-ship of the African National Congress to undermine the political ambitions of Winnie Madikizela-Mandela. The denial came less than 24 hours after the former wife of President Mandela was omitted from the party's nomination list for its top six executive

dent-elect, said there was no appealed to journalists not to But his appeared only to underline concern within party ranks about her challenge, coming as it does amid reported attempts by the leadership to block her bid to become ANC deputy dent at next week's party con-

Challenge to Biko killers'

FROM INIGO GILMORE

THABO MBEKI, Deputy

Mr Mbeki, the ANC presigreat fright" in the ANC bout Mrs Mandela and he "so fixated with Winnie".

Her chances rest on a nomination from the conference floor which, as a result of an amendement to the party's constitution put forward on Wednesday, has to be seconded by 25 per cent, rather than 10 per cent, of delegates.

amnesty

Johannesburg: The former security policemen seeking amnesty for the 1977 death in detention of Steve Biko, the anti-apartheid campaigner, were accused at the conclusion of their hearing yesterday of lying to hide the fact that they

had punched Biko to death (Inigo Gilmore writes).

Speaking at the hearing in Port Elizabeth George Bizos. the Biko family's lawyer, chal-lenged the right of the policemen to apply for amnesty when they had failed to confess to any criminal offences. They are lying because they hope to get aninesty to clear their records and their names. but they do not have the courage to tell the whole truth. this man to death," he said.

Earlier, Cobus Booyens. counsel for three of the four applicants, argued that his clients had made full disclosure and shown a political motive --- key requirements for amnesty in terms of the commission's rules.

A fifth policeman was earlier this week granted a separate hearing. The amnesty committee, chaired by a judge, is expected to announce its decision early next year, and if the policemen are unsuccessful they could be prosecuted.

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Saddam executes hundreds in new terror campaign

AT LEAST 800 prisoners have been executed in Iraq where President Saddam Hussein has embarked on a new campaign of terror to keep his security forces alert and his suffering people cowed. Most were suspected of

belonging to opposition groups and the mutilated bodies of some were returned to their families, dissidents said in a report that diplomats described as "entirely plausible". The prisoners were executed in two jails as part of a so-called "prison cleansing campaign" organised by Saddan's versues as the prisoners were executed in two jails as part of a so-called "prison cleansing campaign" organised by Saddan's versues as the prisoners are the prisoners dam's younger son. Qusai, who controls the state's security apparatus. Some were shot dead, the others electrocuted, the opposition traci-

National Congress said.

The group linked the executions to the recent crisis over weapons inspections and said Saddam often "increases repression when he feels triumphant". Richard Butler, who heads the United Nations body charged with disarming Iraq, is due in Baghdad today to insist on unimpeded access to all sites, including Saddam's many palaces.

Security Council resolutions gave the inspectors the right to

go wherever they suspected there might be weapons of mass destruction, Mr Butler insisted. He said Iraqi attempts to refuse access to the palaces or other sensitive ar-

eas were producing ambiguity and growing difficulties. We can't work that way if we are to help the Iraqi people to have a normal life," Mr

6 The Iraqi leader thrives on a state of crisis. It keeps the people living in fear 2

Butler said in London after talks with Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, on Wednesaccess as soon as he arrived in Baghdad, and would remind Iraq that it is obliged to help the inspectors to identify remaining weapons.

Mr Butler refused to give a timetable for completion of his He said the inspectors had not received the necessary cooperation from Iraq over bio-

logical weapons.

The Iraqi media, which described Mr. Butler as a mad dog", predicted that his mission was "doomed to fail". The United States, which has two aircraft carriers in the Gulf, said it would allow diplomacy to run its course, but is keeping open the mili-tary option to enforce traqu

Mr Butler's arrival will coincide with a carefullystaged street party in Baghdad to mark the first anniversary of a failed assassination attempt on Udsy Hussein, Saddam's eldest son and one-time heir apparent who was left-crippled by the ambush. It emerged yesterday that Uday's personal doctor, Hassan al-Khudairy, recently fled to Saudi Arabia after a heated row, leaving his family

The reports come days after Iraq hanged four Jordanian men it accused of smuggling spare car parts worth a total of just \$400 (£250). Jordan. Whose press yesterday ac-cused Iraq of "betrayal", has



Relatives of two Jordanian brothers hanged in Iraq for smuggling mourn at their home in Amman yesterday

"We've got a great range

retaliated by recalling its charge daffaires from Baghdad and sharply cutting Iraq's diplomatic presence in Amman. A statement published by the official news agency vesterday called for the immediate release of any remaining Jordanians held in Iraq. King Hussein had personally intervened in an attempt to prevent the executions.

The hangings were seen as an inexplicable and gratuitous

smub to a sympathetic neigh-bour and have angered other Arab countries that are supportive of frag's calls for an end to sanctions. The Iraqi Foreign Ministry said it was surprised at the fuss surrounding the executions, saying it was a case of economic

Jordan's response was its toughest diplomatic stand since King Hussein, once Iraq's staunchest Arab ally, began publicly calling for political change in Baghdad following high-level defections crisis. It keeps the regime alert in 1995. But in recent months relations had again been improving, with visiting Iraqi officials such as Tariq Aziz, the Deputy Prime Minister, being

at B&Q this

Christmas."

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houses rather than in hotels. "Saddam must be trying to send some sort of message to Jordan, but God knows what,"

an Arab diplomat in Am-man said, "What is clear is that he thrives on a state of

and the people in fear." The executions may be intended as a warning to smug-glers trying to muscle in on the multimillion-pound black market controlled by Sadfamily, who have amassed vast fortunes since sanctions were imposed seven

Israelis ban Arab census in **Holy City**

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER

YASSIR ARAFAT'S Palestinian Authority vowed defiantly yesterday to continue conducting its census among the estimated 180,000 Arabs in east Jerusalem, despite a rushed new Israeli law to outlaw it.

Just before midnight last night the Knesset voted 26-11 to righten Israel's grip over east Jerusalem by imposing a broad ban on Palestinian pol-

itical activity in the city.
Binyamin Netanyahu, the
Prime Minister, pushed the Bill through parliament in highly unusual and acceler-ated proceedings, after Israeli legal experts informed him that an existing prohibition did not cover Palestinian cen-

sus-taking. France was the first international voice to condemn the new Israeli move to strengthen its control over the disputed Holy City. Most countries, including Britain, do not recognise Israel's claim to sovereignty and maintain embassies in Tel Aviv.

Faisal al-Husseini, the PLOappointed official in charge of Palestinian affairs in east Jerusalem, accused Israel of using "repression" and said it was the Palestinians' right to gather figures concerning their people and that the census would continue "one

Islamic statesmen spurn extremists

By MICHAEL THEODOULOU:

MUSLIM leaders condemned israel as a literrorist state", but also denounced terrorism in the name of Islam as they ended a summit

The Tehran Declaration. called for "interaction, dialogue and understanding cultures and religions", reflecting the spirit of also condensed terrorism the opening speech by Iran's moderate President, Muham-

ed his first big opportunity to convince the world he is determined to steer his country on a pragmatic new course. Egypt and Saudi Arabia, the Islamic world's most important states and both key American allies, promised to take steps to improve ties with Iran, while Kofi Annan, the United Nations Secretary-General, endorsed Mr Khatami as a man with whom the world could do business.

The joint declaration was predictably barsh on Israel A copy of the statement due to be read last night called for the liberation of all occupied

Arab land and for the restora tion of the ususped rights of the Palestinian people. It condemned Israel's "expansionist policies" and demand-

ed 28 heads of state, prime ministers and crown princes, committed in the name of mad Khatami. 400 yearum a stronger mon the strongle of alien domination er foreign occupation". The issue of terrorism had topped the agenda after massacres in Algeria and the saughter of 62 tourists at Luxor in Egypt.

My Khatami held a 25-

minute meeting yesterday with Taha Yassin Ramadan, the Iraqi Vice President - the highest-level contact since the two countries ended an eightyear war in 1988 that cost hundreds of thousands of

Speculation grew in Tehran last night that Iran and Iraq would soon exchange

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Kremlin denies heart link to Yeltsin illness

PRESIDENT YELTSIN. undergoing treatment for a viral infection, yesterday cancelled. on medical advice, a planned radio address to the nation. Mr Yeltsin, 66, had ex-

pressed his determination to go ahead with the weekly speech after being admitted on Wednesday to the Barvikha sanatorium outside Moscow. where he spent several months earlier this year convalescing after his heart by pass operation and a bout of pneumonia last November.

A Kremlin statement said last night that Mr Yeltsin's doctors had advised him against agyravating catarrh in his throat by recording the speech, which usually lasts ten minutes. On this occasion the speech was to have marked the annual holiday today, Constitution Day, a landmark on the Yeltsin calendar commemorating the new Russian Constitution adopted after the bloody clashes in Mascow of October 1993.

There has been speculation that Mr Yeltsin's latest medical problems could be linked with a recurrence of his heart

spokesman denied reports that he had suffered a new bout of heart trouble. Independent doctors say such a recurrence could well manifest itself in the form of a respiratory

and fatigue.

ahead of the operation.

saying that Mr Yeltsin's condi-

Mr Akchurin has remained

close to the presidential entou-

rage ever since the operation and accompanied Mr Yeltsin

on recent visits to China and

Sweden. Last month he pro-nounced the President fully

recovered from his heart prob-

lems. Until this week, there

appeared little ground for

doubts about this. Mr Yeltsin

has appeared more robust and

energetic for the past few

months than for two years

before his operation, and has

shown no lack of resolve in

pushing his policies through and confronting opposition

Russian television showed

ictures last night of Mr

leaders.

his heart surgery.

Unfortunately for Kremlin officials, their past record of playing down Mr Yeltsin's health crises has led to scepticism about their current reassurances. In July last year, just before the crucial second round of the presidential elections. Mr Yeltsin was



Doctors 'wise to act'

Yeltsin's history of myxoedema (reduced thyroid function) and consequent coronary heart disease, followed by a multiple bypass operation, his doctors are wise to take any respiratory tract infection seriously.

All chest infections will reduce the efficiency of the lungs and hence the oxygenation of the blood will suffer. Poorly oxygenated blood, in turn, will put an added strain on the heart.

The chest pain that the President has been feeling may well stem from his pulmonary infection, but there is always the possibility that it is of cardiac origin, which explains his physicians' anxiety. The President's recovery. once it was discovered that poor thyroid function was the

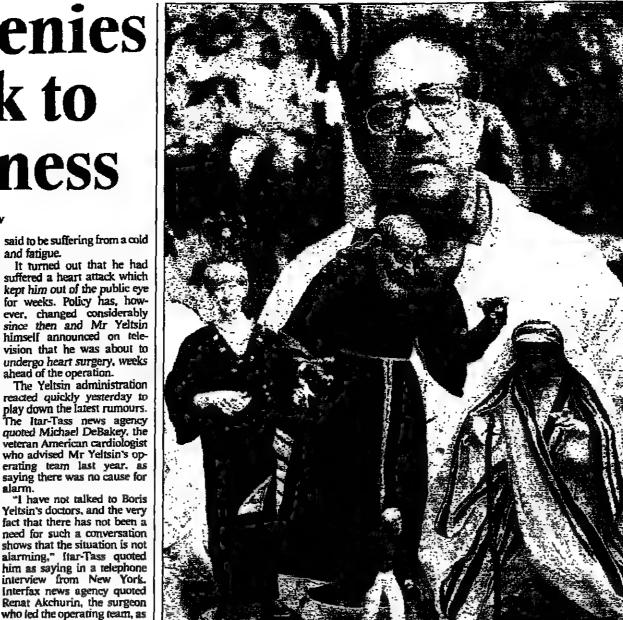
basic cause of his cardiovascular problems, has surprised the medical profession, However, the biochemical changes caused by myxoedema must have been damaging all his arteries for many years and this damage will not be entirely repaired by his bypass

The President continues to show some signs of Parkinsonism, but in general his health has been so much better and his vitality so much more obvious that these signs have been obscured. Any complacency will be

misplaced, however, and the

President's health will continue to need the careful supervision that it has constantly

Dr Thomas STUTTAFORD a throat infection.



Giuseppe Ferrigno with figures, Princess Diana, Padre Pio and Mother Teresa

Nativity artist in Naples puts Diana among secular saints

From Richard Owen in rome

THREE months after her death in Paris, Diana, the Princess of Wales, has become immortalised as a figure in this year's Italian Christmas cribs, together with Mother Teresa of Calcutta, who died only days after the Princess, and Gianni Versace, the Italian fashion designer gunned down in Miami Beach in July.

Yeltsin receiving Valentin Yumashev, the head of his Giuseppe Ferrigno, a Neaadministration, at Barvikha politan craftsman who comes earlier in the day. The Presifrom a long line of cribdent looked pale and seemed a makers in Naples, said the late Princess was "one of the little unsteady, but no worse great figures of our time". than might be expected of a Customers can buy the terra-cotta Diana figure separately man of his age suffering from

to set among the more traditional Marys and Josephs, or they can opt for the de luxe "celebrity crib" in which Diana appears as Mary, together with — in a humorous touch - three prominent Italian personalities as the Three Wise Men: Silvio Berlusconi, the media tycoon and former

Prime Minister, Gianni

Agnelli, the Fiat magnate, and

Romano Prodi, the Prime "There is nothing wrong in mixing novelties with tradition," said Giuseppe's son, Marco, who makes the fig-ures with him in the workshop in the San Gregorio di Armeno backstreets of Naples. "The three are linked: Mother Teresa was very close to Diana, and so was Уствасе.

Proceeds from the sale of the Mother Teresa figure will go to the Naples branch of the Sisters of Charity, the order she founded. The practice of including modern secular figures in the Naples cribs is not new, but it is rare for the Ferrignos and other crib-makthis way. The Diana figure costs about £5 and comes in a variety of gowns and dresses, including some of those de-

Neo-Nazi army scandals derail Rühe's career

The up-and-coming career of Volker Rühe, the German Defence Minister once tipped as a future Chancellor, has taken a nose-dive as a result of almost daily revelations about the neo-Nazi penetration of the army. "His job is now on the line," said Walther Kolbrow, opposition defence spokesman, and many analysts agree. Certainly the bull-necked minister now stands little chance of realising his dream to succeed Herr Kohl.

Conspiracy theories abound. The leaks of farright activity in the barrack room and officers' mess the latest disclosures were published by Stern magazine yesterday - suggest that a group within the army is trying to embarrass or edge out the minister. Private videos showing off-duty soldiers playing Nazi-era war games, giving Hitler salutes, torturing civilians or pretending to climb into gas ovens have been sent to magazines and television stations.

The most powerful attempt to smear Herr Rühe's reputation was a disclosure this week that Manfred Roeder, a top neo-Nazi, was invited to lecture at an army staff academy. His record has been carefully chroni-cled by the federal counterespionage service in its openly published annual report. Yet he was invited to discuss the politically sensitive subject of the re-Germanisation of former East Prussia and was given army surplus vehicles to supply aid to ethnic Germans in Kaliningrad. Herr Rühe has suspended two senior officers involved in the Roeder lecture - one is now the army's head of mannower planning.

The military counter-espionage service is investigat-ing 760 cases of far-right activity and has been watching 138 suspect soldiers. Neo-Nazi activity has more than trebled since last year and some has spilled over outside the barracks into wild, drunken street chases of

There are relatively

Roger Boyes reports on how the dream of replacing Kohl

was shattered

jackal fight li in Par

Nuns sing the

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straightforward explanations for this behaviour. One is that neo-Nazi groups have targeted the army for infiltration. Another is that political education, once writ large, is now neglected.

owever, the sudden force of the disclosures seems to point to more conspiratorial explanations. Former General Gerd Schmückle said yesterday that Herr Rühe had made a fundamental error in splitting the army into small, privileged elite units that are trained for combat missions abread and the mass of poorly equipped, poorly paid conscripts. That, he said, had created serious

The frontiers between honouring military heroes and far-right extremism are being blurred. The open question is whether this blurring is deliberate. If so, who is behind it and why are they trying to unseat Herr Ruhe? The military counterespionage investigators think they may be able to unravel part of this mystery by finding out who recom-mended Herr Roeder as an



Rübe fature is

Return of Italy's royal exiles a step closer

By RICHARD OWEN

THE return of the exiled Italian Royal Family to Italy overcame another hurdle yesterday when MPs of Left and Right oined forces to give a first reading to a Bill which would allow Victor Emmanuel. son of the last reigning monarch, to come

back to the country next year. Victor Emmanuel, 60, who left Italy as

Germans

dress up

package

holidays

FROM ROGER BOYES

GERMANS, Europe's most energetic tourists, are being encouraged to leave their

beach towels and suitcases at home and travel on summer holidays next year with noth-ing more than the clothes they

The trend towards so-called

"all-inclusive" holidays has been taken to headline-grabbing extremes by the package tour group, TUI, which is offering Germans a completely new designer wardrobe. Included in the El,200 for two weeks in Puerto Plata in the

linen shirt, linen trousers.

espadrilles, sandals, shirts,

The advantage is that Ger-man tourists cannot go in for

their traditional competitive

advantage seems to be that

they will be wearing a uni-

form, albeit one conceived by

Nancy Reagan and other

The economics of this scheme hinges on what writer Nicholas Coleridge has called

as the Dominican Republic.

tand up in.

a young boy in 1946 and who now lives in Switzerland, said in a statement from New York that he and his son, Emmanuel Filberto, welcomed the move, which they hoped would enable them to "live as Italians among Italians". He expressed his "great emotion at this good news".

In a free "vote of conscience" in the lower house, MPs from the ruling centreCommunist NPs for a majority, were joined by those from the opposition Centre-Right to push the measure through. The Bill, which has several further hurdles to cross, would revise the 1946 Constitution, which bans male members of the House of Savoy "and their male descendants" from setting foot on Italian soil. But an amendment would bar them from engaging in politics.





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Britain

seeks

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FROM JAMES BONE

IN NEW YORK

BRITAIN is breaking ranks

with the other big powers to

support proposals giving

greater authority and inde-

pendence to the planned Inter-national Criminal Court.

During two weeks of negoti-

ations at the United Nations,

British diplomats have sig-nalled the Government's will-

ingness to limit the Security Council's ability to block in-

vestigations into genocide and

other war crimes. Britain has

also lobbied for "fast-track" extradition of suspects and argued for a broad interpreta-

tion of what type of crimes

Jackal ready to 'fight like tiger' in Paris court

THE TIMES FRIDAY DECEMBER 12 1997

THE world's most notorious professional terrorist, "Carlos the Jackal", will walk — or more likely swagger — into a Paris court foday to face trial in person for the first time.

The 48-year-old Venezueian, whose real name is flich Ramírez Sánchez, has already been convicted in absentia for the 1975 killing of two French secret service agents and their Lebanese informer. His retrial on those charges, expected to last at least a week, represents only a fraction of the carnage attributed to one of the most sinister, colourful and complex figures of the

For the French authorities, the trial is a belated opportunity for revenge, the first in a wave of legal cases against him. For Carlos, after four years in solitary confinement. the case is a long-awaited chance to take centre-stage his preferred venue.

His lawyers say Carlos has been polishing his knowledge of the French language and legal system for months, and that he plans to conduct much of his defence in person. He will argue that his record is not that of a terrorist for hire, but the crusade of a revolutionary against Zionism and

An extrovert who has spent much of his life in the shadThe notorious

terrorist will

crusader, writes

Ben Macintyre fiction - his soubriquet, after

all, came from Frederick For-sym's best-selling novel The Day of the Jackal. The son of a wealthy Marxist lawyer who named him after Lenin, he is believed to have been trained in terrorism in Cuba. In his teens he went on to become the silkshirt frequenter of nightclubs, radical defender of the Palestinian cause and, according to

prosecutors, a ruthless inter-

national mass murderer. The intense and heavylidded face familiar from mugshots of the 1970s hasgrown jowly and pallid in detention. The latest photograph shows a portly figure.
"He will fight like a riger," Isabelle Coutant-Peyre, one of his small army of defence lawyers, said. "He gave his life to political struggle."

Carlos also took the lives of take up every inch of his for the deaths of more than 80 people in a litary of the deaths of more than 80 people in a literature of the others, according to French

attributed to him inche's the. 1973 shooting and wor. ling of Joseph Edward Sie the argue he was a

Jewish president of Marks & Spencer: the seizure of Opec ministers in Vienna in 1 75, in which three people died; and the 1976 hijacking of an Air France jetliner in Uganda which left 3i dead.

It was the less spectacular but still horrific killing in 1975 of two members of the French DST counter-intelligence service, who were investigating attacks on Israeli planes, that eventually led to his downfall Raymond Dous and Jean Donatini were allegedly shot by Carlos when they surprised him in Paris in 1975.

Over the ensuing 19 years, the French secret service pursued his trail until, in 1994, he was seized by Sudanese sectesticle surgery in Khartoum. According to some accounts; he was handed over to the Prench authorities still drugged and tied up in a sack.

The defence team is expected to argue that forcing Carlos to spend the last three years in solitary confinement has infringed the European Convention on Human Rights. They will also maintain that he cannot be tried in France since he was illegally "kidnapped" in Sudan. .

"He is delighted to have the chance to speak out in public," Mme Coutant-Peyre said.



هكذامن الإمل

"Carlos the Jackal" in Khartoum before his capture in 1994 and, right, in an undated photograph in disguise

Ex-wife denounces a 'megalomaniac'



Berlin: The former wife of and of the international "Carlos the Jackal" says that he was a megalomaniac madman" who killed without compunction.

Magdalena Kopp, in an interview in the German news magazine Stern published yesterday, said he "could kill people without batting an eyelid". She add ed: "Carlos wasn't on anybody's side except his own. 1 would really like to see the Carlos myth collapse."

Kopp, a former comrade in-arms of the Venezuelanborn Carlos, lived with him and had his daughter. She far-left Red Army Faction,

group of terrorists that formed around Carlos in the 1970s and 1980s.

Carlos was a real seducer. He knew how to charm a woman," she added from her new home in Ulm, southern Germany. She served three years in jail in France for possessing arms and explosives before rejoining him in Syria in 1985, where they re married.

When the hunt for him closed in, she fled first to Venezuela and then returned of her own accord to Germany in 1995.

There is at least one element in his armoury that may

cause the French authorities to pause. For all his bombast, Carlos had a unique insight into Cold War terrorism. including knowledge of other terrorist groups, and the countries that supported him and them. Terrorism experts say he may also still hold secret information, such as deals struck with Western governments in the 1980s, that could be used as bargaining chips. (AFP)

☐ Caracas: The father of Carlos has insisted that his son was being held illegally. "France does not have the legal capacity to try Ilich." Altagracia Ramírez Navas

should be covered by the new world court, which is to be established at a conference in Rome in June and July. Unlike the existing Internanonal Court of Justice in The Hague, the new court will hear cases against individuals as well as states, operating like the current war crimes tribunals on Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia. In future, leaders who commit genocide might be hauled before the

> "The British Government wants there to be an effective and independent international criminal court with proper powers of investigation," said Sir John Weston, Britain's UN representative. This latest session of preparatory work has made some good progress. The British Government is taking a forward attitude in the drafting of the con-

Human rights groups praised Britain's new stance, attributing the policy switch to the arrival of the Labour Government and its "ethical foreign policy". One rights activist gave Elizabeth Wilmshurst, the Foreign Office lawyer who is acting as Britain's chief negotiator, a human rights badge to congratulate her on changing her position.

"The British position is an important step forward in breaking ranks over the key issue of Security Council control of the court," said Jelena Pesic, of the Lawvers Committee for Human Rights.

Nuns sing their way into Italian charts

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

A GROUP of Italian nuns who normally lead a cloistered life of contemplation and avoid contact with the outside world have produced this year's surprise Christmas musical hit; a best-selling album of 15th century. It maintains convents in religious songs devoted to the Virgin

Mary.
"Our record is selling as if we were rock stars," said Mother Maria Concetta, Mother Superior of the "Poor Clares" order at Albano Laziale, in the Alban hills sisters. We had no thought of any near Rome. "But we are said faithful to commercial activity at the time." The our vows of simplicity. See Poor Clares group consists of 20 nuns, who sing to

were founded by St Clare, the constant companion and devoted follower of St Prancis of Assisi, who formed a "community of women dedicated to extreme poverty and austerity" in 1215. The order declined after her death in 1253, but was revived by St Colette at Bessarcon in the Italy, France and Belgium dedicated to seclusion, holiness and solitude".

Mother Maria said the nurs at Albano. had first formed a singing group in 1994, at the instigntion of some of our younger

guitar, piano and organ accompaniment. The Mother Superior said she believed the fact that pop fans were buying the Songs for Mary album was due to "the yearning for spirituality, and the appeal of songs sung from the heart by women full of love for God and Mary. We sing with spontaneity. We believe song is a fundamental component of prayer.

Mother Maria said the convent had been "inundated" with telephone calls from "enthusiastic young fans", some of whom had visited Albano to talk to the nuns in the convent parlour, the only room where vows of solitude could be temporarily relaxed".

Spa town still lauds Hitler

the region. (Regters)

Prague: Adolf Hitler remains an honorary citizen of one of the Czech Republic's most fitmous spa towns. Karlovy Vary, the jewei of the German-populated Sudetenland that he armexed in 1938, a Czech newspaper reported yesterday. A town hall offi-cial, Zdenek Musil, was quoted as saying there were no plans to cancel the houour. Hitler's forces were welcomed when they occupied

stress with Mozart Rome: An Italian doctor is world and took many forms. He said he had been treating pioneering a form of treat-

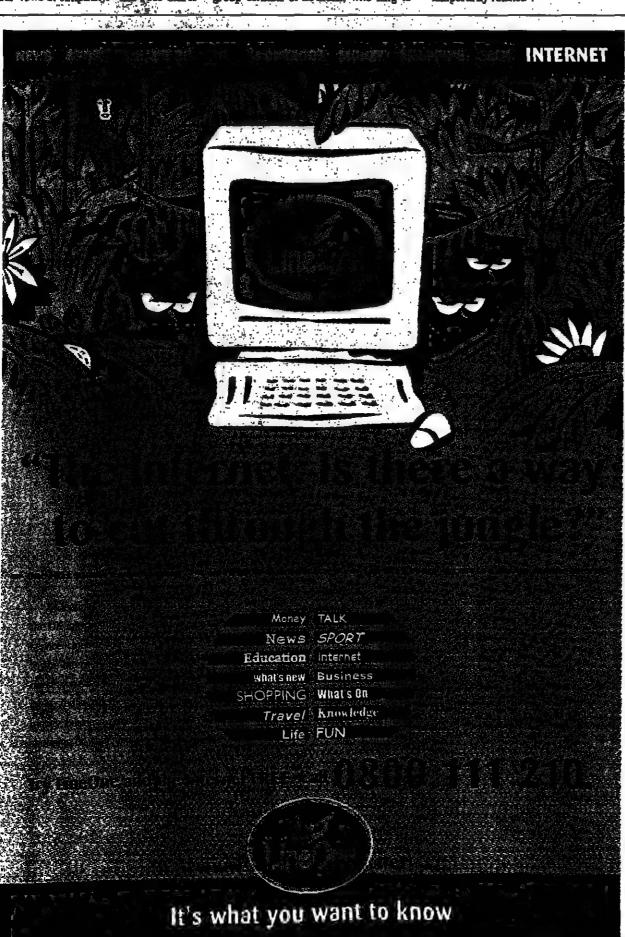
Offbeat doctor treats

ment for modern stress: 60 minutes of Mozart (Richard Owen writes). Dr Giovanni Spaggiari, of Reggio Emilia, in central Italy, is prescribing an hour-long "compilation CD" of Mozart themes along with Valium for "stressed-out men and women". Dr Spaggiari said stress

had invaded even the most tranquil corners of the modern

people for stress-related ill nesses, including migraine and "anxiety attacks", for the past 15 years, not only by prescribing analgesics but also by playing his patients recorded harp and violin music in his surgery. He also favours natural

sounds such as bird cries but Mozart and Gregorian chants were "the most soothing".





More star dust than glam rock

CUTTING JANE SHILLING

From the cover of this month's Vogue, the haughtily beautiful image of Stella Tennant stares out. Her shirt is embroidered in glitter thread and pearls. Beneath that menacing, iceblue stare there is a moonbeam streak of silvery shadow. Across the surface of that perfect skin, a faint, iridescent sheen. This is how we would all like to look at Christmas - sparkling and slightly aloof. A look that, when you walk into a party. provokes a tiny, almost imperceptible pause in the conversation which, when it resumes after a beat of silence, is filled with murmurs of "Who is that girl?" Think Snow Queen. Think Queen of the Night. Whatever you do. don't think

Freddy Mercury of Queen.
Those of us who lived through the years of glam rock can even now suffer moments of post-traumatic flashback if we are unexpectedly reminded of the things we used to get up to with glitter. They used to sell, in Woolworths, little pots of metallic powder in vibrant shades of violet and cyclamen, aquamarine and lime green. Did we really, as instructed by the teen magazines of the time, apply this stuff in concentric rainbow semi-circles from lashline to brow bone, and shape it into butterfly wings at the outer corners of our eyes? Yup. I am afraid we did. But we were very young in those days, and now we know better.

With judicious application it is perfectly possible to cover one's person in a childishly satisfying amount of sparkle while still avoiding a resemblance to the Queen at the State Opening of Parliament (an admirable look, of course, but unfortunately Her Majesty is the only person who is capable of carrying it off), or Barbara Windsor on her way to preside over a Girls' Nite In at the Queen Vic (also a perfectly good look in its way. but probably at its best when seen in its native habitat of

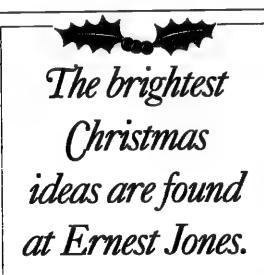
The secret of successful sparkle lies partly in one's choice of products, and partly

in a certain stealth of application. A blooming 15-year-old can survive a coating of glitter that would instantly reduce an older skin to a tone of greyish chalk. If one is much past 25, one may prefer to treat with scepticism Elle magazine's advice to "sweep Laura Mercier's glistening Star Dust Loose Powder all over the face and décolleté..." (If, when dressing for a party, you find yourself tempted to make the best of your cleavage's annual outing, and reach for the Star Dust after all, just consider Joan Collins, and desist.)

But Guerlain's Les Météorites - pretty little balls of faintly frosty ivory, rosy pink and pale gold — will lend the skin a generous glow, as though it were lit by candle light. (Glitter make-up, it goes without saying, should shun the daylight as fervently as Count Dracula.)

If you haven't got a diamond for every finger, make up for it with frosted fingertips. Not pearlised or, heaven forbid, white — which will make your hands look as though you have spent all day doing dishes (you may well have done exactly that, but we are talking about illusion, after all) — but gold or silver. Urban Decay's Alley Cat (metallic blonde) or Stray Dog (steely grey) are cool enough to win grudging approval from even your hypercritical children.

very Christmas pro-duces its tempting little make-up gimmick. A couple of seasons ago, it was Chanel's gold-tipped eyelashes. Last year there was Guerlain's metallic eyeliner, housed in a little silver flip-top case that looked as though Marie Antoinette's jeweller had been ordered to produce a Zippo lighter. This year it is Dior's thoroughly frivolous hair mascara: azure for black hair, a seaweedy green for a mermaid look and a pale gold, encouragingly called Cham-pagne, that works, as I have just this moment discovered, a miracle on a dishwater blonde



Ernest Jones

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SIX OF THE BEST

Metallics are it trus respecting partygoer of any age should contomplate going out without applying at least one metalic make-up item first.



SILVER MASCARA Face Stockholm Silver came out more of a pale grey and was not as glittery as it looked in the bottle. Makes your eyelashes look white and is drier than normal mascara. Packaging is plain but chic. Value for money if you like the effect, which I didn't ... 5/10 Silver Mascara by Face Stockholm, £11 available exclusively at Liberty's, London W1.



GOLD OLITTER GEL FS Face Stockholm The gel is clear with glitter scattered throughout, the texture is fine, not at all sticky but emooth and light to apply. The packaging k beautiful — a small compact dish filled with available exclusively at Liberty's, Regent Street,



Estée Lauder your lips look gold. I rather liked the slightly spaceage effect but men were divided in their opinions. Lovely shiny gold packaging. Good value for money but not one to try out on a new boyfriend ... Gold Indelible lipstick from Estae Lauder, £12.50 available at department



COLD EYESHADOW,

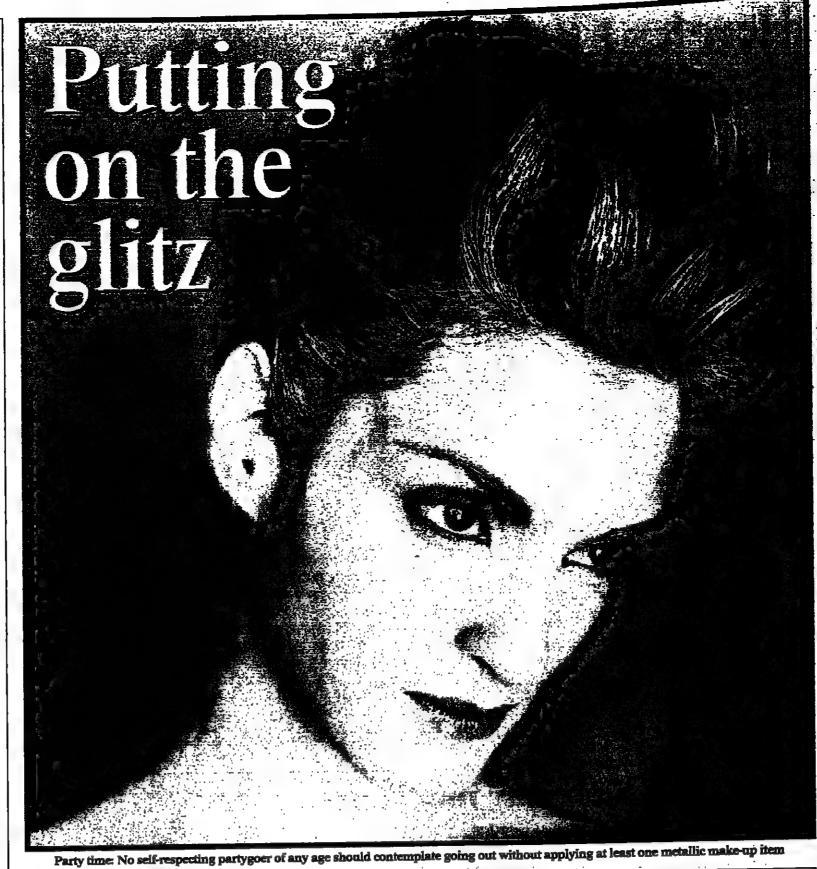
Marsi Pale rich gold looks less Intense on lid than in the compact. It gives a smooth sheen. Expensive but you are paying for the expertise of Françoise Nars, maks-up artist to Space NK, 307 Brompton Road, SW3.



This works like mascara to give instant highlights. I tried opaline, which produces reasonably authentic golden highlights. Great for a party, though you are left with slightly sticky hair. Not bad value for money Christian Dior hairwand, £13 at



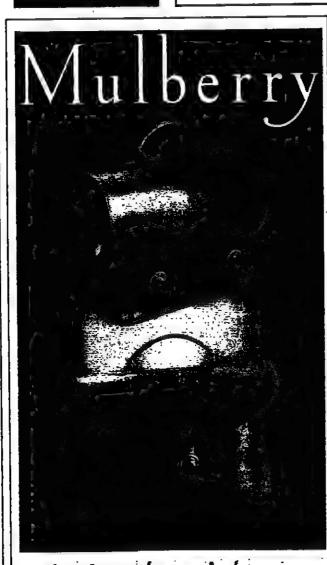
MERCURY NAIL VARNISH, Club Monac A bit streaky in places. two coats definitely needed. Club Monaco metall sheen nail varnish, £8 avaliable from Selfridges, London, Wi





than unsightly bulging and escue by inventing the hipster It comes in black nd white Tactel, which make super soft and a snip at £5 from solected branches

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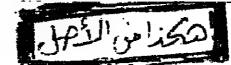


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Greyhound racing no longer has the image of rough old men standing around in the rain watching dogs in deserted stadiums. The facilities are as good as any of the top sporting venues

Why we're going to the dogs Greyhound racing has been taken up by a new class of young and

first, the neon glare drawing you through the drizzle of an East End night, and then the stadium itself: the Stow, as the regulars call it, with its giant red-jacketed greyhound a luminous presence on the skyline. As the first race begins, the thin pop music stops, the lights dim and on the wind you can hear the yelping of the greyhounds as they wait to

There is a hush, then the dogs burst out, hurtling after a

shouts (and groans) from the milive and living in Chingford, track-side punters. The does themselves run another circuit before slowing down; as if the Stow. When there are struck by the furthly of the good-class dogs running and a pursuit. The lights go on and the music starts again. This; ritual is repeated 13 times during this Thursday night at there is scarcely time enough to study the form between - but the sense of

expectation never diminishes. Colin Randall, 33, is a professional librarian and a

SENSATION

fashionable punter out to have a good time. Jason Cowley reports regular punter. Standing next spent on on-course betting and to win the BBC Sports Personto him you cannot help but be £1.7 billion in off-course bet ality of the Year.

swayed by his enthusiasm. He has his own elaborately idiosyncratic system of betting is to return to a time of a massand knows exactly how much he can afford to lose on each race. "A night out at the dogs beats the studying deadness of sitting at home watching the sipping a pint of lager. He pauses looks at the

racecard and circles the name As the winning greybourd, he formulaer? This is real crosses the line there are diving. If Dostoevsky were he'd be here. I've had some of the bestraights live ever had at big crowd, it's magic."

Greyhound racing, after football, is the second biggest There are 34 licensed tracks (and many more unlicensed) ones, quaintly known as "flapping tracks); more than 70,000 races are run every tracks); more than year, watched by four million people. About £320 million is

ting shops.
To spend a night at the dogs common culture and gritty, open-air entertainment. Attendances at the tracks have shrunk dramatically since the high point of the immediate. 90,000 people would watch a night's action at White City.

But the sport is experiencing a revival. There is renewed television interest from Sky Sports and Live TV; a slow rise in attendances at stadiums substantially revamped for the corporate hospitality generation; and an interest in the dogs among the young and fashionable — Blur's album Park Life features a dog track on its cover, and Damon

Albarn owns a greyhound. The emergence of a superbly talented champion dog, Some: Picture, which this season made history by winning the English and Scottish derbies, has further enhanced the sport. He is even quoted at 20-1

As Simon Marcantonio, of the National Greyhound Racing Board, which promotes the sport, says: "Greyhound racing has made a real attempt to shake off the image of rough old men standing around in the rain watching dogs run in deserted stadiums. The facilities are now as good as any of the top sporting venues; and, unlike horse racing, we don't have elitist policies.

Greyhound gossip turns on stories of elaborate scams, of a dog being fed lemonade or too much meat to hinder its performance before an important trial, thus lengthening its price for the next race when it is in peak condition; or of soft toys being thrown on to a track to sabotage a race. "But," counters Bob Betts,

greyhound editor of The porting. Life. these are isolated incidents. With any betting people will try to beat the system, but I think the lean. All the dogs

are subjected to

rules of the Nat-

ional · Greyhound

regular dope tests and the racing at all the licensed be here tracks is conducted under the strict

Well; that's all right then. Greyhound racing was im-ported from the United States, where coursing was popular at the turn of the century. The first British race was held at Belle Vue, Manchester, in 1926, and the sport quickly acquired a mass following among the urban working

Yet the Greyhound Derby at-White City was an event with a that of the Lord's Test or the FA Cup final, as this journalis-tic account of the 1936 derby shows: There were helted earls, young men fresh from

ranks of the fighting forces in multi, businessmen, labourers and indeed (keep it quiet) a sprinkling of clergy."

ack at Waltham-stow, it is a windy and wet night. Most of the punters are inside, watching from the bars, restaurants and hospitality boxes. Buying a drink, I am introduced to dark-suited members of the Chandler family, who have owned the stadium since it was opened in

Frances Chandler, the octogenarian daughter-in-law of the late William Chandler, who acquired the property on which the stadium is built as a bare site of 14 acres, rests a hand on my arm. "I used to race them myself," she says. "I never took to the horses; they

have to race with a man on their back. But my dogs run on their own." Her silver hair is Dostoevsky scraped off her tanned face, and alive and she is wearing a black sequinned living in dress. She has a fierce glamour, but Essex, he'd In front of her is

a glass full of ciga-

rettes; she chooses Racing used to hold funerals for my garden in Epping. Contrary to what people say, they are the They are trained to chase a moving object but they would

> Does she regret the changes in the sport, the arrival of hospitality boxes and the suites full of City dealers and office parties? You have to move with the times, as football has done. You can't resist the ways of the modern world."

Move outside and you understand the appeal of greyhound racing. Standing

course bookies, listening to the banter among the dog people, the wind on your face, you easily lose yourself in the

atmosphere. A good racing greyhound can cost up to £200 a month to train. When the dogs are in flight you can see why: they are exceptionally determined, travelling at speeds of up to 40mph. Has greyhound racing got a future? Johnnie Coleman, a

champion trainer since 1966, says: "It's an uphill battle to make money. After the war people were prepared to stand in the pouring rain to watch the dogs, but now they like their creature comforts too much." He gestures up to-wards the Paddock Room restaurant. "I guess the key is to keep improving the facilities, as they have at the Stow.

and then we've got a chance." The last race has ended and a respectable melancholy settles over the Stow: used betting slips litter the terraces, the music has stopped, the cleaners are at work and the crowds stream home, the lights of their cars cutting a path through the increasingly heavy rain. It will all start again on Saturday night.

Robert Maxwell is in my crib

The Christmas story always attracts passionate detail

promoted to the status of a crib figure. Reports tell us that statuettes of Diana are being sold by the thou-sand by the artisans of San Gregorio to join Mary and Joseph, kings and shep-herds, around the ceramic manger. There is a choice of gowns, naturally, and a companion-piece (if desired) of Mother Teresa.

A Neapolitan academic says that it is "the very greatest honour" for the Princess to be included in this way, especially since she is a foreigner. Usually the statuette-makers are more locally preoccupied: ast year, we are informed, a despised politician modelled being

guillotined, which is not perhaps a very strict interpretation of instruction goodwill to all

Well, one does not like to boast. but Naples is still on the nursery slopes. In one of got Robert Maxwell, John Smith.

LIBBY

Quentin Crisp, Judge Pick-les, Baroness Thatcher (ac-companied by Denis in the teeniest wire glasses), and my mother. In another I have a bandit and a publican, and in yet another the habitual geese are joined. mysteriously, by a puffin. And my colleague Mr Parris, agnostic though he be, may be pleased to know that a creature in a Peruvian-made crib which I originally identified as a misshapen sheep has recently been

identified as a young llama.

They are all going on display in Norwich Cathedral as the culmination of a long, increasingly offbeat, originally quite private and accidental habit of collecting nativity scenes from all over the world.

I have every sympathy for the Neapolitan Dianaholics, because if there is one thing the collection has taught me it is that the central Christmas story is so simple, powerful and universal that it will always attract passionate local and personal detail. Every climate and nation puts in its own conviction about how it might have been the Tehuco Indians swaddle the baby tightly against the freezing Andean night, the

n Naples, the late Prin-cess of Wales has been practicality divide up the practicality divide up the manger so that there is still a section left for the cattlefeed, the Poles set the whole scene in vast ornate models of Cracow Cathedral and add cossacks on horseback. and the Peruvians build a drunken colourful party. with the child Jesus held perilously aloft like the

World Cup.
The one which inspired my own modern version. though, is the traditional Provençal crib in which a whole village brings tribute to the crib: a scroll from the mayor, chickens from the poulterer, repentance from the brigand, and so forth. When an English model-maker offered to make an

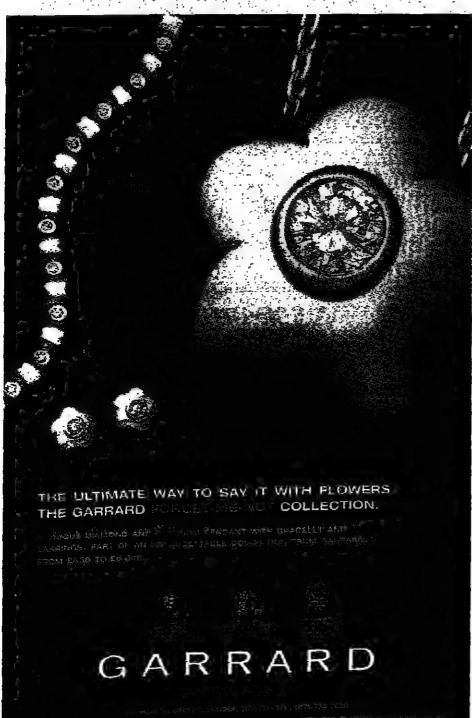
equivalent. asked for the figures to be modern. The Card-board City Crib, now in its tenth year, is set in a battered, painted scene of Charing Cross arches with the Baby in a cardboard box, his young mother

PURVES a drop-out in jeans and his father in dreadlocks. At first 1 commissioned portmanteau figures to visit it — the midwife in NHS blue, the businessman passing on the news by mobile phone, the school

party, the policeman. some Neapolitan in-stinct made me start asking for figures from the year's news: often they were hate figures like Maxwell or people of controversy like Quentin Crisp in the year he did an alternative Queen's broadcast on Channel 4. The principle was, and is, that Christmas is no time to preserve enmittes.

Sadly, I lost touch with the modelmaker Sue Dammann when she moved to France, so I have been unable to add an elegant teeny Mandelson, or Cherie Blair with Humphrey at her heels, or a Faved or a Kelvin MacKenzie. Perhaps a new modeller will come forward Meanwhile, my experience is that people stare for longer, and more thoughtfully, into that crib than into any of the prettier and more exotic ones.

Cribs from the World is in Norwich Cathedral from Dec 14 to 20, 9.30am-5pm, entry by donation to Christian Aid.





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Adams has no business at No 10

But Blair must give peace his best shot, says John Lloyd

Terrorists spend their youth being hunted as criminals, their middle age being fêted as freedom fighters and their later years ruling as presidents. This beguiling formula is now being applied to Gerry Adams, the president of Sinn Fein and the Prime Minister's after-lunch guest in Downing Street yesterday. It surrounds Mr Adams in a glow of, if not yet respectability, at least inevita-

bility. It is wrong. Let us assume that Tony Blair knows this. It is more important that we, the British people (more than half of whom, on polling evidence, want to give Mr Adams what he wants, a united Ireland), understand why Mr Adams is not to be bracketed, as he dearly wishes, with Nelson Mandela. He is, to coin a phrase, himself alone.

The anti-colonial guerrillas whose hit-and-run irregulars were pursued by brutalised British, or French, or Portuguese troops across their colonies were part of an era of collapsing empires. The white settlers' descendants, bitterly awakening to the loss of their motherland's will to carry on oppressing, had to take what they could get, or get out with what they could

If there is a paral-Division of lel between these Ireland will figures and Ireland, it is with Michael continue Collins, the signatory to the treaty which created the Free State and the martyr to the bile of those who saw him

— as it

should

sell out for 26 counties the ambition of all 32. Republicanism has kept this wound carefully unstaunched; Earnon de Valera's 1937 Irish Constitution laid up, in the irredentist Articles 2 and 3, an endless store of salt to rub into it down

The quarrel has kept its integrity yet, because of the dedication of men like Gerry Adams — trained to the gun, imbibing a morality whose transcendent goal is the realisation of the Irish nation's wholeness, to which end any means is good. Mr Blair is continuing, and accelerating. a policy of accommodating Mr

Since the late 1980s, when John Hume of the Social Democratic and Labour Party began talks with Mr Adams to unite violent republicanism with his own peaceful and incremental nationalism, the following major concessions have been made. Britain has declared that it has no "selfish strategic or economic interest" in the province: opened a secret line of communication with the iRA; made a declaration, in 1993, that it was neutral between a united Ireland and a continuation of the Union; published, in 1995, a declaration with the Irish Government that a North-South body be created which gives Dublin a large purchase on the affairs of the province; and permitted Sinn Fein to continue talks without insisting on it

decommissioning arms. This has meant that Mr Adams is now seen as at least a credible political figure, not as a terrorist. He is in his middle-aged, feted period. In 1942, the Sinn Fein leader's father (also called Gerald and then aged 16) was jailed for shooting at a police officer. One of the other IRA men with whom he was jailed. Tom Williams, was later hanged for a separate incident in which a policeman was killed (although probably not by Williams). His son, who was part of a group which nearly killed both Margaret Thatcher and John Major, is welcomed into 10 Downing Street by the Prime Minister, complains that he cannot take his parliamentary seat and is wooed

into relevision studios. This, to those who recall the carnage which he has encouraged and excused, is stuff on which to gag. It can be lived with only if, after all the meetings and the talks, Gerry Adams, with Martin McGuinness and the rest of the IRA/Sinn Fein leadership, can commit his followers to accept an outcome to the talks which will not bring a united Ireland in the immediate future.

He cannot get Irish unity. Indeed, he and John Hume move in a direction which conflicts with the slow, erratic away from an insistence on the fulfilment of de Valera's imperative. It is full of contradic-

tions — the vote for President Mary Mc-Aleese, a radical nationalist, happens at the same time as the his willingness to excise articles 2 and 3 from the constitution. But it seems

the trend is clear.

He cannot get it - because the mystic old claim is a horror. Had there not been partition in 1920-22, the civil war would have convulsed the island; Ireland's independence from Britain was possible only because Uister was quarantined.

Even now - as Dr Garret FitzGerald, the former Irish premier, has written -- there is no serious thought given to what having a North-South body, let alone absorbing Ulster, would mean.

The division of the island will continue - as it should, since there is no agreement in the North that the Republic ty is likely to be worthless if tested in international law.

The Irish political class must if the wound is finally to be staunched, let the Unionist settlement which is the only possible outcome of the talks really be a settlement, and not treat it as a series of concessions on which to build more as soon as politically practicable.

Gerry Adams, the leader of the body which can still arouse a twinge of guilt in that political class, could do a great thing by committing as many of his troops as he can to respect a settlement with which he cannot agree. Do you think he will? Neither do I. But it is reasonable for a Prime Minister committed to dialogue to give it his best shot. If it fails, then Mr Adams and the IRA must be taken on. Their cause is not just; it is

simply murderous. John Lloyd is associate editor



"NOT FAR NOW - IT'S WITHIN STRIKING DISTANCE"

Uncharitable thoughts

magine there existed on these islands a state within the State. Let us call it Volsec. Imagine its gross domestic product was £18 billion - bigger than that of Wales. The citizens of Volsec number more than half a million souls, their average income well above that of the United Kingdom as a whole. Imagine, too, that a quarter of the revenue of this state comes from the UK exchequer — the proportion growing fast and risen by more than 50 per cent in the past four years.

Suppose that all businesses trading within Volsec are exempt from corpopercentage relief on business rates and a general exemption from the rigours of the Companies Act, and you will see that this state's internal economy enjoys a huge artificial advantage. The relief from British taxation which Volsec enjoys amounts to nearly £2 billion a year.

The inequity looms larger when we learn that Voisec is by no means a self-contained republic. Its commer-cial institutions have branches throughout Britain and trade alongside our own, competing on the high street and in the trading estate. Volsec operates more than 5,000 shops here - their number swelled by nearly half in the past 50 years and enjoying nearly £500 million of tax featherbedded businesses are being operated in a lamentably uncommercial manner infuriates the thousands of small businesses in Britain, which enjoy no such advantages and are being crushed by the unfair competition.

Nor does Volsec spawn only retailers. In the service and contracting sector, too, its tax-cocooned businesses elbow aside ordinary British rivals for the provision of many services.

Volsec's investments are vast and growing. A fifth of its national income comes from dividends, interest and rents; the total value of its investments is some £27 billion; and the net value of Volsec's assets approaches £40 billion. The favourable tax regime applied there boosts the value of Volsec's investment income by a quarter.

As you would imagine, many of the citizens of Volsec are doing rather well. Last year the average salary of the directors of Volsec's 100 top businesses was £75,000. Many are paid more than £100,000 and one or two almost twice that. Salaries for chief executives in these larger concerns rose by 18 per cent last year. Volsec is not an imaginary state. There are many fat cats with tax breaks and the greatest of these are the charities

She exists here, as I have described her. Nor is she a new republic. Volsec's constitution finds its origins in 1601. In rudimentary form, the outlines of modern Volsec were aiready discernible more than three

centuries ago.
You, reader, are contributing to her economy. You contribute by choice and by her default on the taxes you cannot avoid. For "Volsec" read British Registered Charity": the bulk

Except that it isn't. It isn't voluntary. The 620,000 employees of the "voluntary" sector are just that: employees. Many of

them may be deeply public-spirited, but so are many bus conductors and newsagents. Though a far larger number of citizens help out unpaid in

large or small ways, the backbone of a modern charity's operation is composed necessarily of paid professionals in a sector with attractive employment opportunities A modern charity employee moves with ease from Aids to disability to pandas. One of Britain's 42,000 professional charity fundraisers - a mushrooming career option since the National Lottery started demanding "matching funding" — slides effort-lessly from the Arts to the elderly to

public school badminton courts. And it isn't, for the most part, charitable. About two thirds of the charitable sector's revenue comes from non-charitable sources. Only one sixth of British charities' total revenue now comes from private giving. Add together private giving, corporate donations and legacies and you struggle just past one third of total revenue. Nearly as much comes

from Government. The biggest source of income for British charities is the fees they charge - such as admission tickets, contracts with local government and lettings. These amount to nearly £4 billion a year. Charities use the 'volunteer" image as a marketing stance, but many now work in the welfare market, a cut-throat sector to which vast sums are allocated.

Then there is the retail market. Though an average of 73p in the

pound is absorbed in running costs and salaries, charity shops paying tiny business rates, or none, can outbid struggling commercial retailers for short leases; some are now selling new stock as well as secondhand goods, and moving from jum-

ble into niche marketing. Where they offer direct competition to the private sector, charities can rely on large fiscal advantages - while tugging at the customers' heartstrings. Where they have no direct competition (as in, for instance, ownership of heritage sites), a charity can exploit its monopoly in ways we

would regard as disgraceful were a capitalist profiteer the culprit. Nor are these profits all ploughed back into the declared aims of the charity. One charity has spread £2 million over its

staff in interest-free loans. Let us delineate the charity landscape with more precision. Many people suppose — I did — that Britain's 184,000 charities were spread quite evenly along the range from small to large. Anything but. Less than one tenth of I per cent of British charity attracts 40 per cent of all charity revenue. There are in Britain a bunch of hulking great charities, and more than 100,000 virtually insignificant ones. 10 per cent of charities account for 90 per cent of the sector's income. 70 per cent account for less than 2 per cent of all

If you find figures abstract, consider the picture in words. Most charities are very small organisations which do display the characteristics of voluntarism we associate with the word "charity". But in their take on available funds, these are to the great hulks what a flea-bite is to a blood donor campaign. The hulks, trapped by their size but trading on the image of voluntarism painted in our minds by tiny charities, behave like the big businesses they are - except that they enjoy corporate privileges and a public tolerance and goodwill no other big business can command.

Selling themselves through a philanthropic corporate identity which was probably a travesty even in Victorian times, the hulks depend

parents vote, saving them that

awkward choice: ideal or career.

Take my good friend Bob Mar-

ence." Again, the whips rather le-

niently approved an extended fact-

finding trip to Bangladesh. "She will be back before Christmas," I

less and less upon the philanthropy either of their workers or of their donors. Household donations have dropped in recent years, while donations from the young are falling fast. Explanations can only be speculative, but may include a dawning public understanding of the nature of the beast. Among the public, charities now inspire only half as much confidence as the Royal Mail.

Many of the top British charities are not organisations that people would think of as good causes: The Wellcome Trust, the Arts Council and public schools are charitable. So is the College of Law. And some famous good causes are not in fact charities -Greenpeace and Amnesty international among them. Self-help organ-isations, particularly small ones, usually fail to qualify.

The whole thing is a conceptual

and administrative mess. The solution may be to avoid an unpopular head-on challenge but to snip and undermine — which is broadly what the Treasury wants to do. Gordon Brown's decision to abolish advance corporation tax will cost the sector about £280 million a year and a review of charity taxation is underway. But nine heads of charities ioined the Labour benches on May 1. and the Government has made it clear that the special tax status of

I favour a braver approach. We should sweep away charitable status completely. I put this idea to the Adam Smith Institute, who told me they had done little work on such proposals. They, too, were a charity!

But every tax exemption is revenue forgone — and thus indirectly funded by you and me. We fund the Adam Smith Institute and the College of Law. Polly Toynbee has said that "if old: ladies want to leave money to cats. I do not want to be party to that lunatic transaction by being forced to add to their donations through tax

relief taken from my pocket". I doubt; though, whether we shall ever find satisfactory definitions of who, what, when and why we wish to foster through tax exemption. Let us cleave to a simpler principle: that each citizen and every business pays tax upon principles of accountancy which do not try to distinguish between the relative worthiness of the

aims of the endeavour. For why should it matter if we tax the worthy? Taxation is itself worthy. To abolish charitable status helps to spread fairly across the nation the burden of supporting the greatest charity of all: the Treasury.

Philip Howard



Yo-ho-ho, from Robinson Croesus to Treasury Island

D wied treasure is one of B the ten basic building-blocks of fiction. This topic goes back to the beginning of literature, with the discovery of hoards of silver plate and the netting of fishes that have swallowed gold rings. The dream of becoming fabulously rich with-out having to work for it, the secret plans, the lucky dig. exotic travel and the threat of piratical rival treasure-hunters are parts of the archetypal treasure story. And Treasure Island is its most enduring modern example.

Even in 1883 Stevenson worried whether the genre was oldfashioned. In a (poor) introductory poem to the hesitating purchaser, he wondered if studi-ous modern youth had grown beyond his ancient appetites for the treasure adventure. If Kingston, or Ballantine the brave, or Cooper of the wood and wave are no longer on the bestseller lists, "So, be it, also! And may I/ And all my pirates share the grave/ Where these and their creations lie!" Fear not, Tustiala of the Gaspers! Your old treasure plot still has sea-boots, as can be seen from the success of the National Lottery and the genre of fantasy treasure hunts started by films such as Raiders of the Lost Ark and Jumanji.

It merely needs to be updated to bring it on message for the new People's treasure story. For example, pieces of eight and gold doubloous no longer have the resonance they once did. Nor do the "strange oriental pieces stamped with what looked like wisps of string or bits of spider's web" in Ben Gunn's treasure cave. Try cashing those at the supermarket. They do not appear on the camusel carrying instant new wealth at the end of The Generation Game along with the cocktail trolleys and alarm-clocks that also make tea. A £12.5 million celebrity cheque blown up to the size of a door is what makes the punters "Oooh!" with envy these days.

Package tours have re-placed the schooner His-paniola, and so scanered the mystery of the Treasure Islands of the world. But tax havens in Guernsey or the Cayman Islands sound as mysteriously exotic to most people, and the accountants' documentation to set them up is more secretive than Captain Billy's glass" hill in its centre. Rum is still a daring tipple in clubs, especially when mixed with Coke. But the captain's eternal sone will have to be made over by spin-Dr Liveseys from Saarchis, along the lines of "Tis the Season to Bacardi".

Blindness is a metaphor for the search for hidden treasure. Blind Pew tap tapping his way through the fog towards the Admiral Benbow is a gripping beginning for a rattling good yarn of avarice. In the People's Treasure Island, blind trusts are as strange and sinister as the dreadful-looking beggar with a great green shade over his eyes and nose. In the genre of treasure story, the heroes should have common English names such as Jim Hawkins or Geoffrey Robinson. If women are admitted, they play supportive roles, encouraging the treasure-seekers or holding a pearl necklace. But it helps if they have exotic names suggesting mystery and treasure, such as the fascinating Belgian widow of vast wealth and a certain age. Mme Joska Bourgeois. It is a brilliant touch that she is now beyond interview. Long John Silver's name signals his ruling characteristic as punningly as Dickens did with his names.

So a Geoffrey may become as familiar a name for tax-free offshore trusts in treasure islands such as Guernsey or Bermuda as Tessas and Peps once were in less exotic settings. Stir into the brew villas in Chiantishire, memories of such notorious pirates as Captain Flint or Cap'n Bob, and villainous lawyers uttering horrid threats, and you have a Treasure Island for new Britain.

And like all adventure yarns, the reader is not going to put it down until the plot is unravelled and the secrets of the hidden treasure are revealed. It is no use for dear, silly Squire Trelawney to go on television to say that it is not at all clear that a tax haven is buried treasure: Once the hunt has started, we wish to know the end. But the new version will not play as well at the Mermaid as the original Writs from Carter-Ruck and his sort are not so much fun for small boys to fence with as plastic cutlasses. Obsuscation is less of a prop than a parrot. But this is a treasure story that will run and run at the National

Ducking out

WITH his delicate voice and neat suits, Alan Duncan delights in appearing on television with a view to boosting the Tories' rather modest popularity. So Angus Deayton, the presenter of Have I Got News For You. invited him to appear on his show with Paul Merton and Ian Hislop for the current series. He believes that the Conservative vice-chairman agreed. But although tonight's episode is the last recording in the series. Duncan has omsistently pleaded work commitments. Even after he was

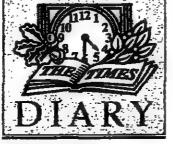
ushered sideways recently as William Hague's chief of staff, he was still too busy. It is not hard to work out why Duncan, a bright chap, might have been reluctant to appear. Even those old terriers Piers Morgan and Paula Yates

were mauled on the show. "We always like somebody who has plenty to say for himself," says a source close to Deayton. "So we rang Mr Duncan at the beginning of the series and his office said he would do it. We kept a slot open and repeatedly rang his office." Duncan now insists: "I have not accepted any invitation." But Claire Gagneux, his Westminster typist, says: "He did say he would like to appear but specified no date." I trust that dear Duncan will be treated with more respect than the then Roy Hattersley, who also once failed to show: he was replaced by a tub of lard.



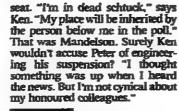
Duncan and Deayton

■ RELATIONS between Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare, the favourite to be London's first Lord Mayor, and Michael Crick, are cool. Archer was lined up to appear on BBC's Newsnight to talk about politicians' memoirs. Then he discovered that he was to be interviewed by Crick, his unauthorised biographer. According to a BBC source, Jeffrey was cross and rang to complain. He is



name of John Birt. "I did ring up," Jeffrey admits. But I have not talked about this to John. I saw him the other evening but I have better things to talk about." The BBC was minded to drop Crick until he complained. And Jeffrey's final words to the BBC? "I bet I end up reading about this in The Times Diary.

Living dead THE black arts of Peter Mandelson are disturbing Ken Livingstone. The rebel MP awoke, having voted against benefit cuts, to news that he might be singled out for especially gruesome punishment. Suspension was mooted. which could endanger his NEC



Absent friends CONVENIENTLY for some left-

wingers, pressing business forced them abroad for Wednesday's lone

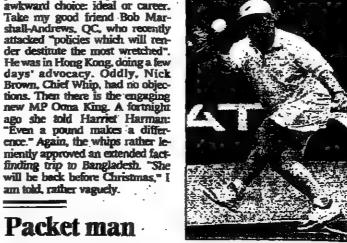
"Things can only get better"

Packet man AFTER talk of a £10 million advance, Elton John has abandoned writing a memoir - as he has not been offered enough money. Publishers went into a frenzy at Frankfurt. The deaths of his friends Diana and Gianni had made him contemplative (or, as one publisher put it, "infinitely more promotable"). But the most they could muster was a modest £3.5 million. Elton wanted £7.5 million, a sug-

gestion "respectfully declined" by HarperCollins and others. So

David Chalfont, his literary agent,

am told, rather vaguely.



Elton: lost match to publishers

was told yesterday to take it off the market. He had promised a "reflective and introspective" account (ie, lots of set) making it "one of the biographies of the decade". Another decade, perhaps.

● A POTENT guest beer served in Strangers Bar fortified MPs voting against the Government, Its name? "Rehellion".

JASPER GERARD

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REBELS WITH A CAUSE

Blair needs stronger ground for his next confrontation

A Government that prided itself on control his own lights. Future reforms, such as the and discipline lost both on Wednesday night. In the vote on lone-parent benefits, 47 Labour MPs rebelled and a further 14 actively abstained, a result far worse than its long shadow over other reforms. Rebeis the whips had anticipated. Harriet Harman. the Social Security Secretary, was left unsupported to face the onslaught. No Cabinet minister thought fit to join her and, while MPs bewailed the poverty of lone mothers, the Prime Minister entertained media stars at No 10.

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The Chief Whip was wise yesterday to draw back from confrontation with most of the rebels. Had the Government been wholly in the right, had this been a straight. fight between old and new Labour, he could have cracked down. But many in the country. have found the Government's arguments on: this issue unconvincing, particularly since the benefit cut will act as a deterrent to taking a job. Most of the rebels were making mischief, but others genuinely could not bring themselves to vote for a measure that seemed so misconceived. Usually, when Tony Blair has taken on the Left, he has won popular support. This time, he would be on marshier ground.

If relations with the rebels are bad, they are little better with the loyal MPs who supported Ms Harman against their better. judgment. The rebels can at least feel comfortable justifying their position to their family, friends and constituents. Those who toed the government line while hating themselves for doing so have no such ease of explanation. They will feel that Mr Blair

now owes them a favour. Unfortunately for the Prime Minister, hehas many more to call in from them. This move on lone-parent benefit is just the first of many in a bold plan for welfare reform. Mr. Blair made a mistake by starting with a cut.

taxation or means-testing of disability benefits, are far more sensible measures Unfortunately, the lone parent row will cast will be emboldened to vote against, loyalists will be the more embittered.

Yet Mr Blair must not row back now. His rebels may wound, but they cannot kill. Many radical policies have been postponed to a second term; welfare reform, however, needs the cushion of a huge majority. Over the next four years, the Prime Minister can achieve much. He will have to leave it to the

On Margaret Thatcher's precedent, voters seem to prefer strong leadership tackling formerly intractable issues, even if a minority of the governing party finds the approach hard to stomach. The alternative weak direction and an obsession with party management - was comprehensively

Next time, Ms Harman will be able to marshall better arguments. Then the clash really will be between old Labour and new. If those reprimended this week offend again, Mr Blair and his whips will have to take tougher action. Otherwise, his troops will learn the habit of rebellion and, on a

to protect his flank more carefully. Ms Harman, although brave and genuinely prepared to think the unthinkable, may not be the best minister to persuade her colleagues to think it too. She should stay in post to prepare the reforms. But when it comes to taking them through Parliament, she could perhaps be moved to a different job to allow a more popular minister to steer that was inherited rather than justified by welfare reform past a recalcirrant party.

THE CLIMATE IN THE SENATE

A pause to reconsider global warming - courtesy of the USA

After 11 days of deliberation and an intense a credible system of tradeable permits would a treaty to reduce global greenhouse gases. should be cut by an average of 5.2 per cent and Japan by 6 per cent. The pact was acclaimed, by those who had adopted it, as a significant first step: it was bitterly condemned by environmentalists and indus-. trialists. Most diplomats were relieved that a deal of any sort was struck and that a: breakdown between the European Union and United States had been prevented.

In all probability this is a dispute deferred. Although Vice-President Albert Gore - 2 man long associated with this issue - hailed the accord as a "vital turning point" and President Clinton showed similar enthusiasm, it is unlikely that the US Senate will agree with them. That will be clear when the UN convenes again next year in Argentina.

The United States has long had an exceptionally diverse and politically effective environmental movement within its own borders. Many American states have passed measures on clean air and pure water that are among the toughest laws in the world. The problems of pollution and the challenge of conservation have, however, been homegrown matters. Canada has been too clean. and Mexico, until very recently, too underdeveloped, to add a transnational dimension to American policy. Warnings on global warming have not yet altered this attitude.

The details have sealed this treaty's fate. The Clinton Administration needed to convince Congress on two matters: first, that

48-hour session of final negotiations, the cast be created that encouraged American com-of thousands assembled in Kyoto approved panies to buy and sell the right to pollute: secondly, that developing nations would also This blueprint mandates that emissions commit themselves to meaningful action on emissions. In July, the Senate passed, on a from 1990 levels within the next 15 years. The ... 95-0 vote, a motion, making that linkage European Union should reduce its output by explicit. As it is, the Kyoto framework 8 per cent, the United States by 7 per cent. retains the principle of permits but with little practical detail and has failed to place obligations on rapidly emerging economies such as China and India.

American corporations and trade unions alike have condemned the Kyoto conference, spending \$13 million on advertisements before the politicians and bureaucrats even reached Japan. Most Republicans instinctively distrust regulation of this sort and are deeply suspicious of crusades associated with Mr Gore, a certain presidential contender in 2000. Many Democrats, who might otherwise sympathise with climate control, will not risk alienating their constituents with congressional elections next year. The Senate will not ratify this treaty. Mr. Clinton knows that. Mr Gore. conceded yesterday that the document would not be submitted to the Senate unless key developing nations "voluntarily" agreed to mandatory limits on their pollution.

This does not mean that the international process will end or that carbon dioxide will be produced in uncontrolled quantities. There will be the opportunity for further deliberations. It does, however, suggest that those who favour dramatic action will have to make their case more powerfully still and look beyond politicians and United Nations initiatives. That may be - courtesy of the US Senate — the single most important message to emerge from the Kyoto conference.

FORKED TONGUES

Gerry Adams' Gaelic words send false signals

Whatever words may have passed between Gerry Adams and Tony Blair inside 10 Downing Street yesterday will not have had the impact on the viewing public which Mr Adams' words outside enjoyed. The climax for Mr Adams in a day of distasticful theatrical contrivance was his studied use of Irish on the Downing Street doorstep in Delibanswer to a journalist's question. Deliberately ignoring an inquiry in English, Mr Adams sought out a figure in the crowd who addressed the Sinn Fein leader in Gaelic. Mr Adams' choice of language will have been as carefully choreographed as his choice of overcoat "from a wellwisher" or his manner. of preparation for the meeting, the artfulpause to collect his thoughts and the stately procession down Whitehall. Every minute of Mr Adams' day has been exploited, every gesture calculated, to convey a particular, and wholly deceitful, impression.

The ambassadorial overcoat, motorcade, bodyguards and, most of all, the tongue which sounds so odd to British ears are all. designed to suggest that Mr Adams is the representative of a foreign people come to talk peace and negotiate colonial withdrawal. Mr Adams wants the British public to believe he is a modern Nujomo or a Gaelic Mandela, a reluctant fighter crying freedom in a foreign tongue. He is, of course, nothing of the kind. He heads a movement whose deployment of violence is designed not to secure freedom and democracy but stille it.

His use of Irish, like his use of violence, is another act of cynical calculation to advance.

his aim of denying Ulster's democratic majority its rights. When the commander of the IRA's Belfast brigade issued orders to kill he did not do so in the language of Cuchulain but the brutal urban English of a Leninist warlord. The Irish language is a minority tongue in the Republic and thrives at all, North or South of the border, only thanks to state support. It is as much a historic tanguage of the British Isles as Cornish, Welsh or Lallans. It is, however no more the authentic language of workingclass Ulster in which Sinn Fein surgeries are conducted and benefit forms filled in than Latin is the lingua franca of Whitehall.

Mr Blair may have felt that the words Mr Adams uttered inside his home have brought peace closer. That is a judgment he must be allowed in the privacy of that home, so recently itself an IRA target. What is certain is that his invitation allowed Mr Adams the chance to project an image to the world which does democracy no service. The welcome to Sinn Fein was issued on the basis it should be treated like every other party in the talks on Northern Ireland's future. Yet Mr Adams and his colleagues exploited the occasion to send exactly the opposite message. They wished to be seen not as a political party representing a part of the United Kingdom's population trying to improve its government but a foreign delegation seeking an end to occupation. It is a pity that a Government so skilled in presentation should have allowed democracy's doorstep to be so ill-used.

electorate to judge whether the reforms achieved outweigh the divisions exposed.

The balance should work in his favour.

rejected at the last election.

narrower majority, they could wreak havoc. Meanwhile, the Prime Minister will have

> Yours faithfully, F. H. HOUSE, Ware SG12 7EJ.

From Mr Richard Bristow

of voting, instead of the open ballot system which presently exists.

money on studying other electoral voting systems.

RICHARD BRISTOW. 11 Hampstead Way, NW11.7JE.

From Ms Nicola Thorne

day Parliament voted to lower the lone-parent benefit, Tony Blair hosted a glittering party in Downing Street for grinning showbiz personalities. Apparently the new Government has

envisage a Tory election victory in another four to five years. Now it looks more likely.

Yours faithfully. NICOLA THORNE. South Bank (North), Church Street, Sturminster Newton DTI0 IDB. December II.

Neighbours at odds

Sir. Magnus Linklater ("You're in a minority, Mr Straw", December 4) must have moved in rather limited circles in Scotland if he has "not realised" the strength of anti-English feeling here, and the consequent necessity for legislation to crack down on overt hostility towards ethnic minorities - the English in particular.

The reason for this hostility is, of course, rooted in the histories of both England and Scotland. However, 1 would hope Mr Linklater can see the logical answer to the current animosity: independence for Scotland. Then both nations may exist as neighbours, not as landlord and regant.

Yours faithfully STEVEN R. LAIDLAW, 27 Hartington Place, Edinburgh EH10 4LF. December 4.

From Mrs M. A. Burton

Sir, in 1989 I was harangued for being English, for four hours at a streach, by the owner of the croft on North Uist in which I was staying for a holiday. As a result, I have spent my recent holidays in East Africa, where the natives are

more friendly.

Legislation may well be necessary to protect those who have to live with such prejudice; but why is this not covered by the existing law on racial

Yours faithfully. M. A. BURTON, Rectory Farm, 1 Cambridge Square, Alderton, Tewkesbury GL20 8NW. December 4.

Business letters, page 31

The state of the s

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number -0171-782 5046. eresi) us leGere@the-times on als

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I Pennington Street, Landon El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Use of party whips Demise of the doorstep welcomed 'undemocratic'

From Mr E. B. Shorson

Sir, Surely the time has come to ques-tion the undemocratic powers wielded -by the party whips, following the un-edifying examples of the previous Government, in forcing many Members to avoid their perceived responsibilities—in this instance towards single mothers (reports, December 11, leading article, December 10).

Malcolm Chisholm, the Scottish

Office Minister who resigned his portfolio over the current issue, together with some 46 Labout "rebels", are upholding the best traditions of our Westminster system and, whatever our political persuasions, we owe them gratitude for their courage and conviction.

The next vulnerable groups to be assailed are the disabled and pensioners - they will need the support of courageous Members too.

BRUCE SHAXSON, 8 Oakhurst, Graysbott GU26 6JW.

December II. From Mrs Fiona H. House

Sir, In the early days of Labour's election success, the Prime Minister said: "The people are the masters. We are the servants of the people. We will never forget that

In a democracy, the will of the people is exercised through their representatives in Parliament. The executive, in order to serve the people, must subject itself to the will of Parliament. It may have become the habit, but it is constitutionally corrupt for the Government to seek, by threat and bullying, to exert its will over the will of the people's representatives. Where it cannot persuade, it should submit.

23 King Edward's Road, December 11.

Sir. I wonder how many votes would have been cast against the Government last night on benefits for single mothers if there were a secret system

Perhaps we should try out secret ballots in the House of Commons before we spend too much time and

December 11.

Sir, How ironic it is that on the very now spent more on parties than the amount to be taken away next year from new claimants for lone-parent

At one time it seemed impossible to

From Mr Steven R. Laidlaw

women in all three Services, one must hope that this will be as unsuccessful as his letter has been.

> I remain, Sir, yours faithfully, HILL-NORTON, House of Lords. • December 9.

Jacob of Ancona

From Dr. David Abulafia Sir, Mr David Selbourne (letter, Dec-

Mr Selbourne invites "scholars of medieval Aragon" to investigate Aaron of Barcelona. Having written extensively on Aragon, I emphatically refute his existence.

Yours faithfully, DAVID ABULAFIA, Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge CB2 ITA. dsa1000@hermes.cam.ac.uk December 5.

new residential accommodation. The changes will not only improve the lives of older and disabled people,

From Mr Jamie Borwick

Sir, I was surprised to read the claim from the House-Builders' Federation that the enforcement of "visitability" requirements, such as the absence of doorsteps frepart, December 51, would add E1,000 to the cost of the average two-bedroom house, pricing many first-time buyers out of the market.

My company is presently discussing, with the help of the local planners, the commercial development of 38 homes in Runnymede, Surrey. These will incorporate not only the level-entry requirements which the Construction Minister is to impose from April 1999 but 15 other requirements set by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation's standards for "lifetime homes". We believe this will be the first prototype development of this sort of house in the private housing field. They will be sold at the same price as any other new housing deve-

lopment. In the light of the Government's recent amouncement that 4.4 million new homes will have to be built in the next 20 years, it cannot be premature to ensure that new housing is accessible to people from across the community at the earliest opportunity.

The reality is that building in such requirements at source is economicaly sound. We should grasp this important opportunity to provide the equality of access which our ageing population demands, rather than paying the higher cost later by failing to think before we build.

Yours sincerely, JAMIE BORWICK (Managing Director), Love Lane Investments Ltd. l Love Lane, EC2V 7JJ. December 5.

From Ms Ginnie Shaw and Mr Charlie Dixon

Sir, Joking aside, how many people will seriously miss the front doorstep? All sorts of people will gain from the Government's anticipated extension of accessibility requirements to all

Anti-depressant drugs

From Professor George Beaumont

Sir, I am alarmed and disturbed by

Mr Charles Medawar's findings on

the addictive qualities of anti-depres-

sant drugs, published in The Inter-

national Journal of Risk & Safety in

icine (report, December 4).

During the 40 years that anti-depressants have been available,

there has been no convincing evi-

dence, despite extensive worldwide

use, that they could be regarded as

drugs of addiction. It is true that

withdrawal effects can, sometimes, be

seen on cessation of all anti-depres-

sant regimes; but these effects, which

are invariably shortlived, can be

explained pharmacologically. Similar

mechanisms apply when a variety of other drugs not regarded as addictive are withdrawn. They can be avoided

or controlled by good clinical practice.

that all antidepressants are essentially

the same. Although their efficacy in

relieving the core symptoms of major

Mr Medawar is wrong to suggest

depression is similar, there are big differences in side-effect profile, behavioural toxicity and toxicity in overdose. Their pharmacological actions also differ and this is important in managing the range of conditions,

provided they are administered prop-

Yours faithfully, GEORGE BEAUMONT, li Dorchester Road.

Wolsey invoked

From Admiral of the Fleet Lord Hill-Norton

Sir. The letter from Lord Irvine of Lairg (December 5) if it does nothing else precisely confirms your assess ment of his self-conceit (leading article, December I, and further letter, December 9). If you need to refer to it again you can now add "appears to have had a sense of humour by-pass".

None of this would matter much except to his unfortunate colleagues perhaps - if it had not led him to try to interfere with the long-established and orderly process of discipline in the Army by intervening in the case of Major Eric Joyce (report, "Tories protest as major evades court mar-tial", earlier editions, December I). For the sake of all the men and

ember 5, describing a manuscript which he has still to produce, cannot defend himself by using the text of Jacob of Ancona to verify events, when the very nature of that text is in

I, on the other hand, can produce manuscript evidence to show that my original text, slightly edited down (ar ticle, "An amazing journey — or just a hoex?". December I), said that it was the Genoese colony in Acre, not Acre itself, that was in ruins "at the time of Jacob's arrival".

as your report suggests; parents with buggies, cyclists, people of all ages recovering from illness or accident, in fact the majority of us will benefit. Purthermore, it is simply not true that there are no failsafe technical

solutions" to keep the rain out, as alleged by the Chief Executive of the House Builders' Federation. Housing associations have been successfully building level thresholds for a num-

ber of years, even in areas with extreme weather conditions. Of course, the inaccessibility of our existing homes will continue to be a problem and may require expensive adaptations for years to come. But at least the 150,000 homes built each year from 1999 will save us all money in the longer term, as well as being safer and more comfortable places to

Yours faithfully, GINNIE SHAW (Director, National Disabled Persons Housing Servicel. CHARLIE DIXON (Assistant Director, RNIB Housing and Environmental Services), RNIB Housing Service, Garrow House 190 Kensal Road, W10 5BT.

From Dr Patricia Pay

Sir, if those who pour scorn on the Construction Minister's proposals, had known what it is, as I have for more than twenty years, to find your-self marooned at the doorway of a building you needed to enter, or total-iy unable to visit friends because of an entrance step and no downstairs loo, they would doubtless welcome these desperately needed changes to the building regulations as a giant leap in the right direction.

Yours faithfully, P. PAY, Longmeadow House, Dunsford, Exeter EX6 7AD.

December 5.

especially anxiety, with which de-pression is so often allied. Depression is one of the most common disorders that afflict mankind. It causes substantial suffering and disability. It has a significant mortality and creates an enormous economic burden. It is, however, eminently and relatively simply treatable with modern antidepressants,

The sort of comments made in Mr Medawar's report unnecessarily undermine public confidence in antidepressants, which should be used more extensively, not less.

Hazel Grove, Stockport SK7 5HE. December 5.

Forces honours

From Major-General Ken Perkins

Sir, In the Armed Forces operational honours list that you publish today, half of the places are occupied by commissioned officers who numerically are but a small proportion of the Forces. The "other ranks" deserve

better recognition. It is no justification to weight the list in favour of officers because of their more onerous responsibilities; these are already rewarded by pay and

The criteria when deciding who is to be honoured should simply be how much beyond the call of duty at their particular level have the men and women in question performed, and in my experience "other ranks" perform above the normal call of duty just as often as officers. The Ministry of Defence needs to acknowledge this.

Yours faithfully, KEN PERKINS. 4 Bedwyn Common Mariborough SN8 3HZ. December 9.

From Ms Kay E. Lacey

Sir, I was concerned to read in David Selbourne's The City of Light that Jacob of Ancona gives two pearls for the ears of his maid, Buccazuppo. I assume that this implies for earrings but, as a textile and dress historian with a special interest in the subject, I am doubtful that a western woman at

this date would wear them. It is a common misconception that medieval people wore earrings. In the West they are not worn after the Viking period (c AD1000), and only in the first quarter of the 16th century do they appear again. Only "moors" are represented as wearing solitary earrings in the medieval period,

I have seen a pair of 14th-century Indonesian carrings made of gold. I know of none with pearls.

Yours etc, KAY LACEY, London School of Economics and Political Science Department of International History, Houghton Street, WCZA 2AE. kelacey@lse.ac.uk December 5

Arts funding after Opera House row

From Mr John Letts

Sir. I think many will endorse Lord Rees-Mogg's comment (Twilight of the Garden", December 4) that "if arts funding is to be handled in this unpleasant way, there will be few people willing to accept such unpleasant

conditions".

I speak from some personal experience. I have had nearly 30 years of running the Museum of The Year Award - and finding the money to run it. I have also been at the centre of one successful bid to the Millennium Commission and one major bid (as yet unresolved) to another lottery agency. Yet if anyone asked whether I would think of doing the same kind of thing again - unpaid, as the board of the Royal Opera House were - after this umpleasing debacle, I would find it difficult to say yes.

There is sometimes a grudging attitude among the apparatchiks in the giving agencies today which makes us recipients wonder if we are on trial. It may well be more blessed to hoard the State's revenues (which are supplied by us humble taxpayers) than it is to distribute them, but we do not need such frequent reminders.

The now resigned board of the Royal Opera House will know what I mean. They have been pilloried, as dilettantes or unpaid amateurs (or both), by a committee of quite hand-somely rewarded professional politicians whose qualifications and experience are not immediately reassuring.

Yours sincerely, JOHN LETTS, 9a North Street, SW4 0HN. December 5.

From Earl Alexander of Tunis

Sir, Mr John Major states (letter, December 8: see also letters, December 9) that parliamentary select committee reports are "very important", and that he would "like the select committee system to maintain its authority as a check upon government". These as-sertions are at odds with his regard to such committees when he was Prime Minister.

The Treasury Select Committee. after taking much evidence on the problems of Lloyd's of London, twice recommended a thorough inquiry into the alleged wrongdoing (reports, May 26, 1995, and March 21, 1996). The Government under Mr Major consistently refused, using the excuse that nothing would be gained from

I need hardly add that the sums of money involved in the Lloyd's fiasco far exceed those of the Royal Opera.

Yours faithfully. ALEXANDER of TUNIS. House of Lords. December 9.

Keeping in touch

From Dr J. W. Brooke Barnett Sir, At Waterloo Station recently I noticed that many of the travellers were unable to negotiate the crowded concourse without the aid of their mo-

bile phones. It did make me wonder whether in isolated spots such as Dartmoor, lost schoolgirls (report, December 9) could benefit from having a mobile phone. It could save several thousand pounds

in searching for them. Yours faithfully. J. W. BROOKE BARNETT, Flat 18, 65 Courtfield Gardens, SW6 0NQ.

Comings and goings From the Head Master of

December 10.

Westminster School Sir, This day contains an Interesting double bill. Mr Gerry Adams walks into 10 Downing Street for the first time; HM The Queen walks off the Royal Yacht for the last time.

D. M. SUMMERSCALE. Head Master, Westminster School, 17 Dean's Yard, SWIP 3PB.

Castles in the air

From Commander T. V. G. Binney.

Sir, Like many others, I should imagine, surfing today's letters before selecting an order of reading, I assumed that Dr John Swales's letter, with its talk of "follies" and "millennium", had to be a relaunch of the dome correspondence.

Alas it was only a balloon, but while we're on the subject is there any chance that Mr Branson might now offer Mr Mandelson his redundant What a grand sight that would be.

Rogate, Petersfield GU31 5HN. December 11.

Yours faithfully.

Close Cottage,

GILES BINNEY.

From Mr David A. Leahy Sir. Could it be that we now have a one-word English translation for Schadenfreude — Branson?

Yours faithfully, DAVID A. LEAHY, 14 Dunham Rise, Altrincham WAI4 2BB. December 11.

The second secon



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE December II: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh arrived at Eastleigh Airport this morning to attend the decommissioning of HMY Britannia and were received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Hampshire (Mrs Christopher

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness drove to HM Naval Base, Portsmouth, and were recelved by the Commander of the Base (Commander lain Henderson RN) and the Lord Mayor of Portsmouth (Councillor Anthony Golds).

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh embarked in HMY Britannia and visited the Royal Yacht Messes before giving a Lunch on board at which the Secretary of State for Defence (the Rt Hon George Robertson MP) and the Chief of Naval Staff and First Sea Lord (Admiral Sir Jock

Slater) were present.
Having said farewell to the ore Royal Yachts (Commodore Anthony Morrow RN) and Royal Yacht Officers and Yachtsmen. Her Majesty and His Royal Highness this afternoon dis-embarked from HMY Britannia onto South Railway Jetty.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were present at the Paying off Ceremony of the Royal Yacht and afterwards attended a

Reception with Royal Yachtsmen

December 11: The Princess Royal, President, the Missions to Seamen, accompanied by Captain Timothy Laurence RN, this evening attended a Carol Concert at Guildhall, London EC2. ST JAMES'S PALACE December II: The Prince of Wales this evening attended the Royal Yachtsmen Association Dinner at HM Naval Base, Portsmouth.

KENSINGTON PALACE December II: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Highland neth-Cater, the koyal rightand Fusiliers (The Princess Margaret's Own Glasgow and Ayrshire Regiment), this afternoon received Brigadier lain Reid upon relinquishing his appointment as Colonel of the Regiment and Major-General Angus Ramsay upon assuming the appointment.

past and present and their familie

The Prince of Wales, The Duke

of York, The Prince Edward. The

Princess Royal, accompanied by

Captain Timothy Laurence RN,

the Duke and Duchess of Glouces-

ter, The Duke of Kent, Prince and

Princess Michael of Kent, and

Princess Alexandra, the Hon Lady Ogilvy, accompanied by the Rt Hon

Sir Angus Ogilvy, were present.

Commodore Anthony Morrow
RN was received by The Queen
today when Her Majesty invested
him with the Insignia of a Comman-

der of the Royal Victorian Order.

Today's royal engagements

The Prince of Wales, on behalf of the Queen, will hold an Investiture at Buckingham Palace at 11.00. The Duke of Edinburgh, Admiral of the Fleet, will visit HMS Ocean at GEC Marine VSEL Barrow Shipyard, Barrow-in-Furness,

The Prince of Wales, as president, The Prince's Trust, will launch the Millenium Awards at the Limelight Club. 135 Shaftesbury Avenue. London WI, at 2.00.

The Princess Royal, as president, the Princess Royal Trust for Carers, will visit Holyhead Carers Outreach. Unit 9 Holyhead Centre, Kingsland, Holyhead, Anglesey at 10.40; and will launch the Carers Support Initiative with the Carers Support Initiative with Samaritans, Gwynedd Carers Centre, 60 Fford Deiniol, Bangor, The Duke of Kent, Chancellor,

Surrey University, will preside over the conferment of degrees ceremony, Guildford, at 2.15.

Dover College

The Governors of the Corporation of Dover College announce the appointment of Mr Howard Blackett MA (Oxon), as Head master, with immediate effect. Mr Blackett has been Second Master at Dover since September 1993.

Repton School

Repton School is updating its records. Would any Old Reptonian who has not received a proforma for this purpose please contact Mr S.P.B. Badger, The Old Mitre, Repton. DE65 6FH. Tel: 01283 559322: fax 01263 557213.

High Commissioners Mr ian Whitehead to be High Commissioner to Guyans in succession to Mr David Johnson who is retiring from the Diplomatic Service. Mr Thomas Young to be High Commissioner to Zambla from next month, in succession to Mr Patrick Nixon who is moving to a ner

Service dinner

The Empire Test Pilots' School The Empire Test Pilots School held its Graduation Dinner last night in the RAF Officers' Mess at DERA. Boscombe Down. Wing Commander S.L. Hilditch, RAF. Officer Commanding, presided. NASA Shuttle astronaut Colonel John Blaha, USAF, retd, was the

for the Best Fixed Wing Pilot Student was awarded to Flight Lieutenant T. Lyons, RAF. The Westland Trophy for the Best Rotary Wing Pilot Student was awarded to Lieutenant Com-mander R. Molfatt, RN. The Dunlop Trophy for the Best Flight Test Engineer Student was awarded Johnly to both Mr N. Lay. Guest of Honour and 14 students DERA, and Captain T. Troy, graduated. The McKenna Trophy Canadian Armed Forces.



yesterday at Olympia in West London. The machine, invented in Sheffield and supported by the charity Mines Clearance International cuts into the earth and destroys the mines. The seven tonne vehicle, named Minelifta, is designed to clear minefields at one kilometre an hour. With it are, left to right, John Backhouse of Avesta, Sheffield, Nicholas Kirk, the machine's inventor, and Bill Ramsay of British Steel

Birthdays today Miss Tracy Austin, former tennis

player, 37; Mr Lionel Blair, dancer and broadcaster, 66; Lord Borwick, 80; Major-General Sir Burert Brazier-Creagh, 88; Mr Will Carling, rugby player, 32; Miss Denise Coffey, actress, direc-tor and writer, 61; Mr Jasper Couran, fashion designer, 38; Mr Kenneth Cranham, actor, 53: the Hon Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody, MP. 67; Mr William Ebbert, former chairman and manage director, Vauxhall Motors, 55; Mr David Elsworth, racehorse trainer, 58; Mr Emerson Pittipakli, racing driver, 51; Miss Connie Francis, singer, 59; Mr Roy Grantham, trade unionist, 71; Air Commodore Dame Felicity Hill, former director, WRAF, 82; Mr Cliff Holden, painter, 78; Dr Philip Ledger, Principal, Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama, 60; Mr Frank Sinatra, singer and actor, 82; the Right Rev Denis Wakeling, former Bishop of Southwell, 79; Miss Dionne War-

The Princess Royal and Captain Timothy Laurence celebrate the fifth anniversary of their marriage

Binney Memorial Medal

The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Lady Mayoress, the Sheriffs and their ladies, presented the Binney Memorial Medal for bravery in support of law and order in the Metropolis, awarded posthumously to Mr Philip Lawrence. His widow, 'Mrs Lawrence, re-crived the medal.

Appointment

Mr Justice (Anthony) May has been appointed a Lord Justice of

Dinners

Fullagar.

British Silver Medal: Mr Keith

Society Bronze Medal: Mr John

British Bronze Medal: Mr Kevin Gerrity and Mr John Steed.

Wakefield Gold Medal: Mr Keith

A dinner to mark the retirement of the Duke of Grafton, KG, Chair-

man of the Trustees 1975-1997, was

held on Tuesday, December 9, at the Museum, Dame Jennifer Jen-

kins and Sir Philip Powell were the principal speakers. The guests

The Duchess of Grafton, Lord Charles Fitzroy, Mr Roger and Lady Virginia Hill, Mr Guy and Lady Rose Monson, Viscountess Blaketham, Mr Mark Fisher, MP, Lord St John of Fawsley, Lord Gibson, Sir Jocelyn Stevens, Mrs Vivien Duffield, Mr Hayden Phillips, the Rev Professor Owen Chadwick, OM, Mr Martin Drury, Miss Gillian Darley, Mrs John Nutting and Dr Ian Bristow, Mr Richard Griffiths (Chairman of the Trustees) and Trustees: Mrs Bridge Cherry, Sir Walter Bodmer, Mr Ronald Lightbown, Mr David Coombs and Mr Edward Cuillinan; Mrs Margaret Richardson (Curator) and Miss Helen Dorey (Deputy Curator).

Haller, botanist and poet, Berne,

1777; Sir Marc Isambard Brunel,

éngineer, London, 1849; Jean Louis

Agassiz, naturalist, Cambridge, 1873; Robert Browning, poet, Ven-ice, 1889; Douglas Fairbanks Sr. film actor, Santa Monica, Califor-

Minister of New Zealand 1940-49. Wellington, 1950; Tallulab

Sir John Scane's Museum

Royal Aeronautical Society
Sir Charles Masefield, Head of
Defence Export Services Organisation, Ministry of Defence, delivered the annual Royal Aeronautical Society's Wilbur and Orville
Wright lecture in the society last Wright lecture to the society last night at 4 Hamilton Place.

At the annual dinner held after-wards Mr Ron Woodard, President of Boeing Commercial Airplane Group, was the guest of honour. Mr Stewart M. John, president of the society, was the

Eartler, the society's medals and twards for 1997 were presented to

Honorary Fellowships: Mr Norman Augustine, Group Captain, John Cunningham and Ms Jean Honorary Companionship: Mr Anthony Goldman and Mr Rich-

British Gold Medal: Mr Jack Society Silver Medal: Ms Susan

BIRTHS: Semirel Hood, Viscount Hood, Admiral, Butleigh, Somer-set, 1724; Erasmus Darwin, phy-

tician, Elston, Nottinghamshire

1731; Anna Seward (the Swan of

Society Gold Medal: Mr Robert

ard Lapthorn

Latest wills

at £5.072,296 pet.

£1,181,014 net.

valued at £1,283,837 net. E1,527,092 net.

£1,016,460 net.

wath, of King's Lynn, Norfolk, left estate valued at £1,403,447 net.

Gwyneth Maria Brows, of Clandaff, Cardiff, left estate valued

Charles Trevor Bryant, of Heiston.

John Howell Davies, of Liam-tynydd, Carmartheo, left estate valued at £559,385 net. Margaret Bennie Calder, of Barry,

SERVICES

CHARLIE WALLER MEMORIAL

MEMORIAL,
TRUST.
The Treat it saw a vegitiered charity (1065996). In mainobjectives are a increases of depression at an
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Cambridge House, 69 Alderyck,
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UK HOLIDAYS

OVERSEAS TRAVEL

runch Alpa Challet for 6/6 people £1.30pp 7 days. Tanditional alphas village of La Cinqui. Sary access from need, tall or six Prisadity, relaxed attra-cations. For a brockurs & a class: 07.202-765 996, Mobilet 0802-961914.

Henry John Gover, of Moute Carlo, left estate valued at £9,394,675 net.

John Kellett, of Northallerton, North Yorkshire, left estate valued Stanley Glithero, of Windermere, Cumbria, left estate valued at

Shamin Janmohamed, of Clarford, Hampshire, left estate valued at £4,999,994. Caroline Mary Mowil, of Wadhurst, East Sussex, left estate

Mary Cecils Hill-Wood, of Hartley Wintney, Hampshire, left estate valued at £1,186,687 net. David Wilson Bain, of Windsor. Berkshire, left estate valued at

Jean Margaret Swinburge-John son, of Ampney Crucis, Glouces-tershire, left estate valued at She left £1,000 to the Gloncestershire Gir Guides Association and to the Girl Curio Association of Southwest England.

David John Betcher, of Westbury. Wiltshire, left estate valued at E1,040,952 met. He led shares in his residuary estate to CLC UK, League of Priends of Westbury Wilshire Hospital, NSPCC, British Heart Foundation, Cancer Research Campaign and the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council for Research.

John Anthony Tomson Treso

at 11.474,573 net.

She left \$1,000 each to Presbyterian.
Church of Walen. Weish Rayder
Union of Swanses. Mental Health
Research Fund, Tenorus Instants Health
Cancer Research, and British Heart

Cornwall, left estate valued at El.272.532 met.

valued at ES12,315 net.

Memorial services

Sir Gilbert Longden Sir Edward Heath, KG, MP. was represented by Lord Carr of Hadley at a service of thanksgiving for the life of Sir Gilbert Longden, former MP, held yesterday at Holy Trinity, Brompton. The Rev Sandy
Millar officiated. Mr Anthony
Alers Hankey, nephew, the Eart of
Sandwich and Mr Richard Weaver gave readings. Lord Eden of Winton gave an address. Among

of Winton gave an address. Among others present were:

Mrs Felicity Andrew, Mrs Diana Martin, Mr and Mrs M Longden, Mr John Longden; the Duchess of Rostburghe, the Butte and Duchess of Rostburghe, the Butte and Duchess of Rostburghe, the Butte and Duchess of Resiborough, the Earl of Lishume, the Counters of Limerick, Viscount and Viscountess of Umerick, Viscount and Viscountess Dunboyne, Lord Cuttlen of Ashbourne, Lady Greenhill of Harrow, Lord Inglewood, Lady Hillern, Lady Killern, Lady Greenhill of Harrow, Lord Reman, QC. Lady Simon of Glaisdale, Baroness Trumplageon, Lady Moyle Browne, Lady Barbara Bossom, Lady Anne Cowdray, Lady Serena Bridgeman, the Hon Lady (Cordella) Vanneck, the Hon Lady Cordella) Vanneck, the Hon Lady Cordella Vanneck, the Harrison, Lady Cowld, Liewellyn, Sir Frank Roberts, Major and Mrs Is Harrison, Brider, Mr Spels Dirnon, Mr Richard Rod, Mr Frank Giles, Mr Perty Grieve, Och Mr and Mrs B Harrison, Burder, Mr and Mrs John Phillips and many other friends and former colleagues.

Butler, Mr and Mrs John many other friends colleagues. Sir Reginald Murley

Sir Regunnia Murrey
A service of thanksgiving for the
fife of Sir Reginald Murley. President of the Royal College of
Surgeons, 1977-1980, was held
yesterday at St Clement Danes,
Strand. The Ven P.R. Turner.
Chaplain-in-Chief, RAF, officiated, assisted by the Rev David Macken-zie, Resident Chaptain, and the Archdeacon of St Albans.

Sir Geoffrey Slamey, Professor Bertram Cohen and Sir Rodney Sweemam, President of the Royal College of Surgeons, gave read-ings. Sir Terence English gave an address. Members of the family. friends, former colleagues and members of the council were among those present.

Service

Second World Wer For Eastern

The Lord Mayor, accompanied by Mr Alderman and Sheriff Michae Oliver, attended a service held yesterday at St Lawrence Jewry-next-Guildhall when the Bishop of Sodor and Man, the Right Rev
Noel Jones, Chaplain of the Fleet
1984-89, dedicated a plaque of
commemoration for those who
fought in the Second World War Far Eastern Campaigns, Veterans of the Second World War, Count ss Mountbatten of Burins and Viscount Slim were among those

Reception Friends of the Holy Father

Mr Colin Edwards, Chairman of the Friends of the Holy Father, Lord Craigmyle, President of the Catholic Union of Great Britain, and Sir Hugh Rossi, Chairman of the Association of Papal Orders in Great Britain, were the hosts at a reception held last night at Vanghan House, Westminster, in honour of Mr Mark Pellew, HM Ambassador to the Holy Sec.

Middle Temple

Sir David Calenti, QC, has been elected Treasurer for 1990; Mr Justice

Forthcoming # marriages

· **

Mr H.D. Cawthorns and Miss S. Clark

The engagement is announced between Hugo, son of Mr and Mrs Donald Cawthorne, of Cookham Dean, Berkshire, and Sian, daughter of Mr and Mrs Stuart Clark, of Caerleon, Gweni.

Mr J.A. Kendall and Miss S.L.E.M. Thirlby The engagement is armounced between Jonathan, eldest son of Mr M.A. Kendall of Putney, London, and Mrs R. Clarke-Hall of Luppett, Devon, and Samantha. eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs. R.W. Thirlby, of Mayfair, London.

Captain G.D.C. Liewellyn and Miss A.M. Hughes

The engagement is announced between Captain Glyn Llewellyn, Royal Welch Fusiliers, son of Major General the Rev and Mrs Morgan Llewellyn, of Llangattock, Powys, and Annabel, daughter of Mr and Mrs Robin Hughes, of East Ogwell, Devon.

Mr G.E.J. Leaf and Mrs S-A. Rawlinson The engagement is announced between Guy, son of Mr and Mrs Antony Leaf, of Ampney St Peter, Gloucestershire, and Sally Ann. daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs Michael Scott, of Wildhern, Hampshire.

Mr A.M.B. Locke and Miss L.C. Waters
The engagement is announced
between Adam, elder son of Mr and Mrs Bryan Locke, of Crowborough, East Sussex, and Lucie, daughter of Mr and Mrs. Brian Waters, of Eastbourne, East.

Mr M.D. Mackinnon

and Miss L.J. Griffith
The engagement is announced
between Mark Daniel, son of Mr. and Mrs W.R. Mackinnon, of Melbourne, Australia, and Lucinda Isne, daughter of Mr and Mrs K.C. Griffith, of Melbourne, Australia.

Mr A: McGrath and Miss C.A. Cocksyne The engagement is announced between Alex, only son of the Rev and Mrs J. McGrath, of

Cockayne, of Woolpit, Suffolk. Captain the Hon T.T.B. Maybew -

Manchester, and Claire, third-daughter of Dr and Mrs E.

The engagement is announced between Captain the Hon.
Tristram Mayhew, The Royal
Dragoon Guards, third son of Lord and Lady Mayhew of, Twysden, of Kindown, Kent, and Rebecca, eldest daughter of the late Mr Richard Hobbs and of Mrs John Morgan and stepdaughter of Mr John Morgan, of Northchapel,

Mr J.A. Roberts and Mar S. Garden The engagement is announced between John Roberts of Parristicid, Nottinghamshire, and Sandra Gardner, of Ravenshead,

Mr M.R. Wood and Miss J.A. Felton

The engagement is announced between Marcus Richard, son of Mr and Mrs Colin R. Wood, of Cranleigh, Surrey, and Justine Alexa, eldest daughter of Mr and London.

BMDS: 0171 680 6880 PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

Anniversaries

FAX: 0171 481 9313

DELTA

WORLDWIDE

STRINGS AND PERSON AND

Time and again I sent all my servants the prophets to say, Turn back every one of you from evil conduct, mend your ways, and cause to fol-low gods and surve them.' Jenemiah 35: 15 DEATHS Torsea Lyon Dalberg on 9th December peacefully at home. Funeral at 10 am on Saturday 20th December at Our Lady of the Rosary, 211 Old Marylebone Road, London, burdel at 11.15 am All Souls Cometery, Kennal Green, Family flowers only the state of the Saturday of of t

BIRTHS

Oper 2900 e

The Portland Hospital, to Shirem (nees Zamudin) and Richard, a son, Alexander 1840.

ERITTON - On November 30th, to Pauline (née Traili) and Steven, a son, Robert Steven Traili, a brother for John. CLARK - On November 30th, to Clare (née Sevington) and Peter, a daughter, Sukey julia Anne.

DALEY - On Monday Sth December 1997 at St Thomas' Hospital, to Einaleth (sie Hobern) and Michael, a daughter, jessica Isubal, a there for Micholas. SIGNERITIFI - Unsupectedly but peacefully in New Hall Hospital, Salisbury on Documber 10th, Edward Jeff aged 82, much loved husband of Eispeth, father of Miles, Tuny and Peter and grandfather of six. Cremation private. Thankspiving Service at 8, John's, Fewsey, Wilishim on Ideas, 19th became 12 mom. No flowers pieses. HUS-WILLIAMS - On 9th December, to Ali (nie joy) and Michael, a daughter, Lucca Leonora.

Inones - On 7th December 1997, to Street and Assy, a beautiful daughter, Elodie Louise, weighing 87bs 8cs. NCONE - On December 8th

at The Portland Hospital, to Mathalis (tole Guimant) and Guy, a daughter, Madeleina, a sister for Luca. December, peacefully after a long illness cheerfully borne, in Mourachonne, Panes Farer & Athanee De Cannes on Mondry, 15th December at 130ps tollowed by named cremetion. Family flowers only. Service of Thunkeyiring in England to be summed. St Mary's Hospital, Paddisgion, to Kattina (née Brasher) and Edward, a daughter, Marina Juliet. 7215CT - On St. December 1997, to Hanrietta (née

BUCKINGHAM - May (née Hockey) on Friday 5th December and 39 years at Mandowhouse Hospiter of Raling Hospital, Commetion at 10 am Monday 15th Sally missed by daughter-de-law Sylvis, grandsons Cive and Fanl, and anyone who knew her. Denarious in memoriam to MacMillan Nursing Commissions plans. Sth 1997 in Cambridge, to Anne (néo Aithers) and Peter, a son, John Peter Waitford.

MALTINE - On December Sci. a: The Featingd Hospital, to Victoria (non Attricing) and Mark, a daughter, Cilvin. yenitië - On het December, to Ign and Lucille (pée hitimy) a son, Ewan McQueen.

BUTLER - Wankworth, Eddige End. Northumberland. Pencefully in hospital on 11th December sped 80 years Robert Goldie, beloved husband of Harganst, denity loved father of Jennifer. Friends please meet for savine at Wankworth Fathal Church on Tuesday 16th December at 11 am to be followed by interment. MARRIAGES MACDONALD-GALBRAITH MACDONALD-BALSHATIK -The marriage has taken place between Mr Ecry MacDonald and Mrs Marion Galbraith, both of Speambridge, Inverness-

ABILEY - Gladys Katrims on December 9th pescefully in hospital was about The Funeral Wednesday 17th December at 230 pm at the Farish Church of St Bannabas, Pitshanger Lame, Ealing, W5 followed by Demitter in Calina Gent.

BATMAN - Rey George peacefully in his sleep 3rd beauty 1997 that the previously of 5, Maythows Road, Stockwell, London. Committed at 100 am. Tomore at 10 am. Tomore At 10 am. Tomore At 10 am. Tomore At 10 am. Tomore At 170 am. T

December 5.

CARTHMAGHT-TAYLOR
Fementally on 9th Documber
1997 in his 90th year Betty
Wynefred of Welton, East
Litchins, and loved cont,
great-aunt and friend,
Fement Burkes to be bell on
Thursday 18th Documber
1997 at 1 o'clock at 5t
Relen's Church, Welton,
followed by a private
commiss. Family Howers
toly plasse. All englishes to
R. Cogan & Sone Tournal
Directom, (01482) 681740.

GOATES - On Wednesday, 10th December, peacefully, at Runtington House Nursing Home, Hindhead, Eatherine Mand (Peter) Coates, indoesd and demons win or the late Eichard (Dick) Coates and dear mother of John. Faneral Service, Sollowed by interment, at St. Margarets Church, Fernheurt, on Thursday, 18th December at 11.30 am, Flowers and enquiries to LF, Lintott & Son Funeral Directors, North Street, Midhurst, West Sussez, GU29 9DG, Tels (01730) 813264.

Pair ratricia filmbeth
Flora. Died peacefully at
home aged 90 after a long
iliness. Very much loved
note of that the
same and the late Anthony.
Dear mother-in-law and
gammother. Private family
cremation at her own
request. Donations, if
desired to Martiny Care
Russes e/o J. Novil Butler
Ltd., S. Bridge Street,
Stourport-on-Severn, Wortz,
19713 ELD.

Richenda Evans-Lombe, loved sister of Edward, peacefully after a long illness on December 10th 1997. The funeral service will be bed at the Cammin of 3t Mary with All Saints, Little Matton, Norfolk on Tuesday, December 16th at 3 pm. Family flowers only, Donotions if desired to St. Mary's P.G.C., Little Metron.

Many's P.G.C., Little Melton.

WASH - Basile on December of the peacefully and with her family at Essentiand House, Moved with a Benedictary of the Inc. De. House, Moved with of the Inc. De. House and Maniel, the will be desply mass favores to be held at \$5 Swithma's Church, Long Bennington, Lincolnshire on 12th December at 115 pm and at Moston Hall Commistratus, Ediaburgh on 17th December at 1145 nm. In lieu of flowers planse send the flowers planse send Contrict House of Revent and District House of the Contributions to Newark and Distric

HAIRTI - Feminas on Dissemble 10th at Tyspeme Nursing Home, N. Deven, aged 85, widow of Joe and mother of the late Philip and Catherine. A welcome release. Tel: 01271 891037.

CARTWEIGHT-TAYLOR

Appeal in place of Sir Christopher

MARTLEY - Gavin on 9th December 1997 aged 76 years. Dearly loved husband of Ams. Develop the Market of Andrew and Elizabeth. Grandfather of Kathryn, Robert, Peter and Alexandez. Crematerium at West Hertfordshire Crematerium, Garston, Watford on Tuesday 16th December at 11.20am. Remembrance service at 8 Mary's Chunch, Elloaghton, Rest Yorkshire on Monday 12th January 1998 at 11 am Donations if desired to 3t Mary's Chunch, Elloaghton, Donations and enquiries to L.C. Weston FD, No. 25, 17 Leyton Road, Harpenden, Berts, ALS 2217, tel. (01582) 712865.

peacetally at her home in peacetally at her home in Russian and December 9th 1997 aged 84 years, widow of Alam, descreet mother of See, Fet and Jim, Francal Service at Norwich-Codebia C Likes Case I have been at 11 am, followed by creamation. No flowers by her own request but densitions made payable to Parkingsons Disease Society clo G.W. Gooch & Sons Fatheral Disease, Liberty Street, Norwich, NG2 281.

ILOYD WELLIAMS - Phyllis join Nam Zwr, mother of Peter and John, very psecularly in her sleep on December 7th 1977. Prasmi at St Nicholes Church, Bethampton on December 17th at 12.30 pm, followed by internent. Pr Cot Ammy).

by interment. Pr Cof Ammyl.

MARTIM - Prederick Royal
(Roy) on 7th December 1997
pencafully at home aged 78,
dearly loved father and
gamdistar. Will be saily
mined by all The funeral
service will be held at
2.30 pm on Monday 15th
December at St Mark's
Church, Tailot Village,
Sournemouth and cremation
at Bournemouth
Crematorium at 3.15 pm.
Family flowers only please.
If desired donations to
beins Heart foundation
(Charly Ro. 225971) who W.
Smith & Sont 6.37 Windown
Road, Bournemouth 5.39

Rectory, Derbyshire, 1747; Sir William Beechey, painter, Burford, Oxfordshire, 1753; William Lloyd Garrison, militant Abolitionist, Newburyport, Massachusetts, 1805; Gustave Flaubert, novelist, Rnum, 1821; John Richard Green, Idstorlan, Oxford, 1837; Edvard Munch, painter, Loten, Norway, 1863; Edward G. Robinson, actor, llucharest, 1993. DEATHS: John Cra er, Edinburgh, 1600; Albrecht von Kenye became a republic, 1964.

POULTON - Geoffrey but his battle on Sunday 7th December 1997. Person 2: Réburgs Church, Ricester, Oxon. Wednesday 17th December at 2 pt. Fundly flowers only please. Decetions in Mr. Richard Sobell House (Hospice). Enquiries to E.J. Tyzzell Puneral Service, (01869) 25288.

Marconi gave the first public demonstration of radio at Toynbee Hall, London, 1896. Christopher Cockerell patented his

COTT - On 9th December 1997 at Fools Ganaral Hospital, John Burleigh Scott MD, agod 91 years. Hashing of the has Linden and Jather of Valence and Marie Franch, Parkstone on Wednesday 17th December at 9.45 am, Millowed by cressation. We flower please but, if so desired, donations for Cancer Research Campaign may be sent to Dario-Scott, Forban Lodge Funeral Home, 755 Christelauch Bone, 755

SMITH - Cyril Guzaki Douglas of Northwick, farmanly of Whittington, Worcester. Peacefully on Monday December on Monday December on Monday December on the Cloud Narrang House, Callow End, and 92 Beloved hashand of the Late Bales and Malles, Foneral Service to be bed as at All Bahan Church, Broad Street, Worcestur, on Thursday December 18th at 11 am followed by private cremation. Family flower cally Douglatines if capacity in the Wine and Subrita Trades. Reservolates Society 6th 21. Gumery & Son, Funeral Directors, Worcestur.

STURES - Lucia Meati, who stad at home on Towning 9th December 1997 in the company of her beloved daughters, Markingala and Shirley. Her family and riends in England and in Italy will note her above. There is a standard on Thursday 18th December. Flowers or donations to the Rational Ostooporous Society to TH. Sanders and Sone, 12-14 Modfield Street, SWIE 4JZ.

MOSTAGU - Eryan de Castro Sumuel on December 11th 1997, beloved husband of Edde, a much loved father, grandfather, uncle and friend Funezal payate, control running fractions of the control of the con TYLER - John Calvin on 9th December. Husth Tored Irahand of Hanthar, heliast of Louise and Justin and gonodiather of Hannah and Timothy. Funeral at 8t Mary's Church, West Horsley on 18th Decamber at 230pm. Fundy Howes only. Demails at 18th Decamber at 250pm. Fundy Howes only. Demails at 18th Case Comond 8 Hospital for Children of James & Thomas Ltd. 45 Bast Lune, West Horsley, Sunny KT24 6HD, tak 01483 284948.

Research Fond.

1997 peacefully Reymond
passed World, and world
husband of Jane, dearly
loved father of Julia and
Ed. Basakin to Edward
Carter F/D tel: (01235)
525292.

TICKETS FOR SALE peacefully after a short filmen Commander Aims Turvill RM (rettl), adored husband of the late Am, devoted father of Josethan, and Vameses and a doting grantifather to Findley, Sun, Rebears. Reather and lands. and Vamesta and a dotting grandfathet to Findley, Sun, Reheace, Jeathen and Jamie, Funeral Service at St. George, Somesset on Menday December 15th at 11.20 cm. Family flowers only Donations to either King George Frent for Selies or the League of Privates of

AND THE CLASS ZONNER.

WAR EMPARTMENTS - Justice Manufact aged \$5, beloved, friend and companion of Rosemany his wife for 64 years and father of Anna (decessed), Roger, knet and Richolas, grandfather of their children. Funeral newsta

their children. Funeral private.

The control of th

MEMORIAL SERVICES von CLEMM - A Memorial Service for Michael von Clemm will be held at Southwark Cathedral, Montague Close, London Sit at 3 pm on Thesday, 13th Jahossy 1998. A reception will be held after the service. All friends and colleagues are welcome.

IN MEMORIAM ---WAR 42 CDO R.M. - In grateful memory of those who full at Limbeng on 12th Documber 1962 - Dick and Dorothy

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0171 323 4480 Sport ticket specialist at Portland Entertalame FOR SALE

C150. Tel; 01/483 77/6452. THE COUNTY (F1199) LA LA Original processing News, Officer Tel: 01222 S51846 (Kent). ELECTRONIS 2 sets. Each cost \$16.85. Best offer, can be sold aspamitsly, 0374, 956130. THE TIMES - 1791-1997 other titides zentiaties. Ready for pre-centration - also Sundays". Ramsember When. 0161-668 6323 for Call Fees. 0500 520000

ANNOUNCEMENTS

"A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE" Start the Festive Season in The Times on 22nd December 1997 by sending colleagues, clients, friends, family and loved ones that Special Christmas Greeting and Happiness for

the New Year. For further information or to reserve your space please telephone 0171 481 170a or Fax: 0171 481 9313.

TRADE: 0171 481 1982 XMAS GREETINGS GIFTS COPPLEY and BOSS Talket regent they are mable to send Close-tons cards this year but send they are mable to send Close-tons are made to all.

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PLIMAN double bedrooms in light and sky first-close to Fullness broadway. Would sait poof female. \$400 pens + bits. Namb 0271 731 2586 after 7pm

WOLAND SER BANGEOR ST HORONG ATE SHICKNOSS ACI LOS ANCELES ENGY MORRORISM ANCT WAKAN EST PLACES . CHI CATTLE HER COTORS RECEIVED [⊆]0161 272 8433 ⊭ ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN ON DIALYSIS need our love and practical support,

not just today but everyday Sadly, money cannot buy healthy kidneys but it can make life worth baving. Donations argently needed by The British Kidney Patient Association. Bordon, Flants, GU35 917.



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COURT & SOCIAL PORTECOMENG MARRIAGES AND MARRIAGES Over the Christmas pecied the following deadline will apply: All notices to spear on:
Treaday December 23rd, Westerday December 24th,
Friday December 25rd, Saturday December 27th and
Monday December 29th

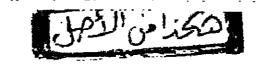
must be received in writing by Spot on Printsy December 19th. Please and Court Page amountements by post/for to:

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PO Ben 495, Virginia Street, London Et 923. Tel: 0171 782 7347. Fax 0171 782 7725

Please include in all correspondence:

a signature of either one of the parties concerned or a parent,
a daysing and home telephone number and address.

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Lord Kissin, financier, died on December 2 aged 85. He was born on August 23, 1912.

arry Kissin was a tough and energetic businessman who, though never fully accepted by the City estabhishment, was for many years a prominent player in the British financial world. From modest professional beginnings as a commodities trader in the 1930s, he managed to acquire control of one of the City's most patrician banking houses, Guinness Mahon, which in turn he made into the core of an innovative and ambitious international conglomerate, Guinness

A tail, slender figure, autocratic in the boardroom and reluctant to dele-gate day-to-day control, he was also a man of considerable charm and culture, and a generous philanthropist who supported the arts in Britain and a great many causes in Israel. He was created a life peer on the nomination of Harold Wilson in 1974. Harry Kissin was born into a

Russian Jewish family and brought up in Danzig (now Gdansk) and in Switzerland, where he studied law. He practised as a lawyer in Basic until 1933, when he moved to London and began his business career.

After the war he started his own

small commodity trading company, but the real foundations of his empire were laid in the mid-1950s when he built up a stake in a long established but by then rather moribund rival, Lewis and Peat. Having acquired more than half its voting shares, he became chairman of the larger group in 1961, and was able to set about expanding its operations, which until then had been concentrated mainly in rubber trading. Within a decade, Lewis and Peat was not only dealing in a wide range of commodities, but was also active in fields as diverse as food production and distribution, chemicals and pharmaceuticals, and insurance.

Much of that diversification came about through acquisitions, at which Kissin was highly adept. His most impressive coup came at the end of 1972, when Lewis and Peat merged with the merchant bank Guinness Mahon, a member of the venerable Accepting Houses Committee and thus a pillar of the British financial estab-

lishment.
The merger, and the unique combi-nation of interests and activities which it brought about, was perhaps not as surprising as it might have seemed. chairmanship, Lewis and Pear's interests in the financial sector had already seen strong growth, reflecting a business philosophy that was not unlike that of a merchant bank of the 18th century, concerned in the broadest trms with financing the movement of

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After the merger, the merchant bank and the commodities trading group retained their separate identities as

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OBITUARIES

LORD KISSIN



subsidiaries of a new holding company, Guinness Peat, in which Kissin, though joint chairman with James Guinness, was very much the dominent figure.

One of relatively few leading British businessmen to champion the idea of a mixed economy, Kissan had long been Although the two groups, styles were intendity with Harold Wilson. Their vastly different, their operations were association brought him a peerage in in many ways complementary, in 1974 in he was always proud that his principle at least Under Kissin's elevation came before the Labour tion Honours List of 1976 - and it was widely thought to have helped him to segure the removal from Guinness Peat. of the gentleman banker Sir Charles Villiers, the former chairman of Guinness Mahon who had stayed on as chief executive of the merged company but who in 1976 was appointed to the chairmanship of the nationalised British Steel

Kissin's determination to apply his instinctive hands-on approach even to a vast and highly diversified conglomerate with some 70 or 30 subsidiaries, brought him inevitably into conflict with other directors and executives. The departure of Villiers was one of

many such changes at Guinness Peat.

Talersed and distinguished figures came and went in fairly short order. The senior civil servant Sir Derek Mitchell, who as Second Permanent Secretary to the Treasury had been involved in negotiating the 1976 IMF loan to Britain, lasted little more than a year as a director. Edmund Dell, the Labour politician who resigned as Secretary of State for Trade to become chairman and chief executive at Guinness Peat in 1979, was ousted three years later after a bitter and highly public power struggle with Kissin, who had become life presi-

LEGAL NOTICES

dent" of the company and retained considerable influence as a major shareholder and what one journalist aptly described as "the ghost in the boardroom".

Despite such upheavals, and one or two difficult trading years, Guinness Peat prospered in the late 1970s, expanding its operations and boosting its liquidity through a number of useful acquisitions (some of them fiercely contested). Pre-tax profits topped £10 million for the first time in 1976-77.

But the merger of an aggressive trading operation and a dignified banking house brought problems as well as benefits. Kissin's single-minded approach had undoubtedly belped to hold the group together, and the transition to a less autocratic regime was not always easy. By the early 1980s things were not going well. A disas-trous involvement in financing car tyre imports to the United States was one of several unhappy ventures blamed for mounting debts and for losses which exceeded £31 million in 1981-82. In January 1982, with the share price tumbling and the Bank of England taking a close interest in the group's affairs, a new chief executive, Alastair Morton, took over from Dell, who had been unable to agree a recovery strategy with Kissin.

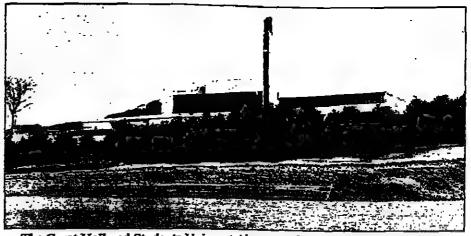
Morton, a former managing director of the British National Oil Corporation who would later take charge at Eurotunnel, assumed the additional role of chairman when Dell left Guinness Peat altogether at the end of the year. He embarked on a programme of disposal and consolidation far more ruthless than anything contemplated by his predecessor, who had been accused by Kissin of selling assets too cheaply.

Amid fears that the volatility of the trading operation might undermine confidence in the stability of the merchant bank, the commodities division was sold in autumn 1982 to a management consortium headed by Kissin, who re-established it as an independent business under the name Lewis and Peat Holdings. Guirness Peat retained an interest in the new company, and Kissin in turn retained his significant stake in Guinness Peat. He continued, sometimes to Morton's irritation, to involve himself in the running of the group he had created, and in 1987 did not oppose a hostile (and ultimately successful) bid for Guinness Peat from Equiticorp of New Zealand.

Away from the boardroom, Kissin was a man of wide cultural interests, which found expression in his li-year membership of the board of the Royal Opera House, and his service, from 1974 to 1980, as the first chairman of the Royal Opera House Trust. A keen smateur painter, he was from 1968 to 1975 chairman of the council of that controversial avant-garde stronghold in The Mall, the Institute of Contemporary Art. He gave generous support to a number of cultural and educational concerns in Israel.

Harry Kissin is survived by his wife Ruth, whom he married in 1935, and by a son and a daughter.

DALE OWEN



The Great Hall and Students Union at Aberystwyth, 1971, one of the buildings exemplifying the modernist architectural principles championed by Dale Owen

Dule Owen, architect and town planner, died on November 12 aged 73. He was born on August 2,

DALE OWEN was one of Wales's most prolific and distinguished architects, working in his long career on a notable range of university buildings, schools, steelworks, commercial developments, hospitals and housing schemes across the principality and beyond. He was also acrive in public life, giving dedicated service to many different bodies, but especially to the Civic Trust for Wales, of which he had been a member since 1966 and chairman for the past three years.

Dale Owen was born in Merthyr Tydfil and educated at Whitchurch Grammar School in Cardiff. After qualifying as an architect at the Welsh School of Architecture and as a town planner at the School of Planning and Re-search in London, he worked for the Cwmbran Development Corporation on the Cwmbran New Town master plan and neighbourhood development.

He then won both a Smith-Mundt and a Fulbright scholarship in urban design to study at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and at Harvard. He spent three years in the United States, where he worked for a time with Walter Gropius.

On returning to the UK he worked for Minoprio Spencely and McFarlane and then Sir William (now Lord) Holford. His planning and architectural work during this period included involvement in the expansion plan for Crawley New Town and the completion of landscape and plan-ning for Canberra in Australia.

In the course of his career Owen was responsible for the design of numerous award-

winning buildings. Four times he received the Gold Medal for Architecture at the Royal National Eisteddfod, as well as similar awards from the Civic Trust and the RIBA. among others.

He became the senior part-ner in Wales for the Percy Thomas Partnership, and was the designer for large-scale projects in the university col-leges of Cardiff, Swansea, Aberystwyth and Lampeter, as well as a great many other public buildings and commercial developments in Wales. He also worked on proposals for a new nuclear power station at Hinkley Point in Someries.

His strong modernist ideals and design philosophy are exemplified in projects such as the BBC Wales headquarters in Cardiff: the new university buildings in Cathays Park; the Welsh Folk Museum at St Fagans; the development plan for the university campus at Aberystwyth, especially its Great Hail and Bell Tower. He had continued to advise on development at Aberystwyth in an honorary capacity since his retirement from the Percy Thomas Partnership.

He was always delighted to be able to encourage and support the talents of those

ROBERT LEWIS

around him, and particularly those of younger architects. He was bitterly disappointed that the radical design for an Opera House for Cardiff Bay by Zaha Hadid was not allowed to become a reality. in public life. Dale Owen served in 1982-83 as High Sheriff for South Glamorgan and was later appointed a Deputy Lieutenant. He was a great supporter of the work of the Royal British Legion - he himself had served in India during the Second World War as an officer in the Royal Arrillery — and was a member of the Welsh Nat-

ional Festival of Remembrance Committee, Owen was the founder chairman of the Building Preservation Trust for Wales and chairman of the Cardiff Building Preservation Trust. Other heritage and preservation bodies with which he was closely associated included the Architectural Heritage Fund. Civic Trust UK, the Victorian

Society and the Twentieth Century Society. He was also a longstanding committee member of the Contemporary Arts Society for Wales. involved over many years in

the work of the United Nations Association (Welsh Centre) Trust, he became one of its trustees and volunteered his services as honorary architect to its building, the Temple of Peace in Cathays Park. Cardiff, a fine piece of design of the 1930s by Sir Percy Thomas. He was a former president of the Royal Society of Architects in Wales and a former RIBA councillor.

He was married in 1964 to Maureen Kelly, a fellow architect and since 1990 his partner in the practice he set up on retirement from the Percy Thomas Partnership. He is survived by her and by two sons, both studying architecture, a third son having died aged five in 1984.

PERSONAL COLUMN

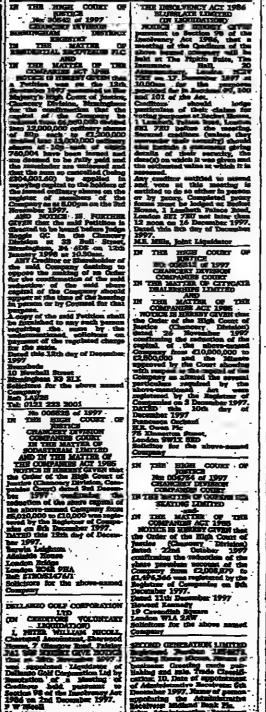
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Robert Lewls, drama teacher, died in New York on November 23 aged 88. He was born on March 16, 1909.

ROBERT LEWIS was a drana teacher who made an indelible mark on American theatre. With Elia Kazan and Cheryl Crawford he was one of the founders of the Actors' Studio in New York, which became the training ground for some of the most successful stage and screen performers of the past half-century. Lewis's own students included Mar-lon Brando, Meryl Streep, Montgomery Clift, Faye Dunaway and Sigourney Weaver.

It was in the course of a walk in Central Park that Lewis and Kazan conceived of an acting school for professionals. Lewis's idea was to secure a refuge for working actors to hone their craft in private, away from the pressures of weekly stage perfor-mances. The Actors' Studio, as it became, was to be one of the most influential institutions in American theatre.

Robert Lewis was born in Brooklyn. In 1929 he joined the Eva LeGallienne Civic Repertory Company, remaining with it for a year before



leaving to found the Group Theater, along with Clifford Oders, Stella Adler, John Garfield and Franchot Tone.

A left-wing theatre company, whose productions fre-quently attacked the capitalist system and idealised the working man, the Group worshipped the Russian acting teacher Stanislavsky, adopting his methods wholesale. Lewis eventually became frustrated with the limited ex-

posure he was getting in procompany. In his autobiography Slings and Arrows (1980), he wrote that the Group's emphasis on emotion over theatricality, a Stanislavsky hallmark, robbed its produc-

tions of colour, and that the fixation on character psychology would kill the theatre However, he was lured back

to the Group as a director, an area in which he had little experience but would soon display immense talent. He began his directing career with the first Broadway production of William Saroyan's My Heart's in the Highlands, it opened to positive reviews, and Lewis realised that his future lay near the stage, but When the Group folded in 1941. Lewis headed west to Hollywood, where he found

parts in a number of films, including Dragon Seed (1944), Son of Lassie (1945) and Ziegfeld Follies (1946). Then came the foundation of the Actors' Studio in 1947. There Lewis taught an advanced class of 20 actors. His first group of students included Marlon Brando, Eli Wallach, Sidney Lumet and Karl Malden. But despite the pleasure he took in nurturing such talent, he resigned from the studio after only a year. It was a feud with Kazan that triggered the split, with Lewis becoming incensed when Kazan advised him to decline a particular directing

offer, only to take the job

himself. Lewis said later that he always regretted his deci-sion, and that, had he stayed, his own developing theories about acting would have had another outlet. In his place Kazan appointed another Stanislavsky disciple. Lee Strasberg, who turned the studio into the prime hothouse for a generation of American

Lewis always had very spe-cific ideas about acting technique, which he elucidated in his book Method or Madness? (1958). He was critical of Strasberg's influential "Meth-od" school of acting, with its emphasis on emotional truth. He argued for the importance of physical technique, and believed that "the Method" had done serious damage to the American theatre.

Rechannelling his energies, Lewis became a director, shepherding the original Brigadoon onto Broadway as well as Truman Capote's The Grass Harp and Agatha Christie's Witness for the Prosecution. He had joined the faculty of the Yale School of Drama in 1941, and he spent 35 years there before founding the Robert Lewis Theater Workshop in New York.

He was unmarried.

REFORMING

THE LORDS The revival of the question of the reform of the Lords by Lord Clarendon is not to be dismissed as an intellectual exercise, undertaken by the Peers to pass an idle moment while waiting for the House of Commons to find them work. Politicians of all parties, who have any pretence to constitutional leanings, betray by their very sensitiveness to the topic that it possesses an attraction, besides inspiring apprehension. Among the public, apart from a few lingering traces of an archaic fanaticism, the chief reaction - at least to any proposal for changing the composition of the Second Chamber - is indifference; but it may well be that this feeling is due to an instinctive aversion to any issue that has been so repeatedly bungled by the politicians. In any case a return to it is to be welcomed, provided that such a return affords any hope that a commonsense view of the matter is gaining

ground. No one can pretend that, at this

ON THIS DAY

December 12, 1928 经是国际国际

A Bill to enable women peeresses in their own right to sit and vote in the Upper House had previously been thrown out on the second reading in the Lords in 1925 by a majority of two votes.

period in the life of the Government, any discussion can be more than academic but even an academic discussion is of value if it shows that ancient prejudices are defunct, and thus clears the way for an ultimate agreement between political parties upon what never ought to become an electoral issue. It is, therefore, satisfactory to note many proofs of the disappearance of those theories and prejudices which, in conjunction with miserably bad stage-management, were

responsible for the collapse of the scheme launched by the Government 18

months ago.

It is generally accepted by this time that a paper constitution can be a provocation to extremism, but never a barrier against it. It is agreed also that the right to sit in the Second Chamber should neither depend almost exclusively upon qualifications of birth, nor be conferred by any process of direct election. When once these two points are settled, most of the fundamental difficulties in the way of a re-definition, alike of the powers and the composition of the House of Lords, cease to exist . . .

It is the virtue of Lord Clarendon's scheme that it is inspired by the belief that a useful measure of reform is practicable without trenching upon such controversial ground as the Parliament Act. As such, it was presented to the House, and, as such, it offers an occasion, if not a model, to the leaders of political parties to show that they possess the true British genius for achieving progress by compromise.

Choice of history for Adams

Tony Blair looked Gerry Adams directly in the eye at 10 Downing Street and offered him a "choice of history" violence and despair or peace and progress.

The first Prime Minister for 76 years to play host to an Irish republican leader. Mr Blair said: "It is important that you remain committed to peaceful means. If we were to slip back, I believe we would slip back to something worse than what came

Queen bids farewell to friend

The Queen's eyes were glassy, and she appeared to struggle to contain her emotions. The Princess Royal dabbed her eyes with a white handkerchief, and the Prince of Wales shook his head. The Royal Family, schooled in the art of stoicism, found it particularly hard to bid farewell to Britanna _____ Page 1

Labour rebellion

Labour MPs threatened to stage a second revolt over disability benefit cutbacks as the Government drew back from taking strong disciplinary measures against the 47 "lone parent" parliamentary rebels...

Euro clash

Britain and France were on course for a head-on clash over the single currency after Tony Blair refused to give ground in his fight for a seat on the body

Tiny heroine

A petite jeweller who stopped an armed robber in his tracks was commended for her "remarkable bravery" by an Old Bailey judge.

Toy condemned

Fostering and adoption agencies called for a ban on the sale of the latest cyberpet toy to reach Britain from Japan. It features a virtual foster child.....

Prosecution case

The Lord Chancellor is to look again at allowing Crown Prosecution Service lawyers the right to prosecute jury trials in the Crown ... Page 6

'Mad cow' warning

A scientist advised parents to encourage young children to eat chicken rather than beef or lamb because of the risks posed by "mad cow" diseasePage 7

Bremner funeral

The funeral of the Leeds and Scotland soccer star Billy Bremner near Doncaster turned into a twohour celebration of a great sport-

illegal garden

The retired couple who spent almost £10,000 and eight years turning a rubbish tip into a garden have lost their year-long fight against a council ban. They have been told to plough up the

Chicken flu scare

As health experts warned that chicken-borne flu could become a pandemic disease, Hong Kong schools prepared for the possibility of having to destroy pet

Treaty row

The United States will not ratify the new international climate change treaty for years, if ever, senators said. ... Page 15

Death highway

A 50-mile stretch of narrow, potholed road cutting through jungle and tropical countryside in northem Sri Lanka is the island's death highway_ ... Page I6

iraq terror

At least 800 prisoners have been executed in Iraq where President Saddam Hussein has embarked on a new campaign of terror to keep his security forces alert and his people cowed..... Page 17

Scent of scandal for Mrs Clinton

A musty former gentleman's club, which only recently admitted women, was licking its woulds after an attendant threw out Hillary Clinton for breaking house rules by spraying on perfume. Unfortunately for the University Club, Mrs Clinton was with Cindy Adams, the "First Lady of New York Gossip" who reported the incident in her column Page 1



Ffion Jenkins links arms with her fianct William Hague and his Madame Tussaud wax dummy at its unveiling yesterday

Hunting expedition: LucasVarity. the engineering group formed in a transatlantic merger, is on the hunt for acquistions after selling Its VarityPerkins diesel engine business to Caterpillar of the US for £803 million ...

Liberty: Denis Cassidy has been removed from the board of the department store after a vote by shareholders ...

In the soup: The former venture

capitalist who helped to oust Andrew Palmer from the board of his New Covent Garden Soup Company, took controlPage 27 Markets: The FTSE 100 fell 94.8 to 5035.9. Sterling fell from 103.9 to 103.8 after rising from \$1.6514 to

\$1.6535 but falling from DM2.9441

.. Page 30

to DM2.9322...

Cricket: England beat India by seven runs in the opening match of the Sharjah Cup. Alec Stewart scored 1)6 for England, who lost their last

Football: There are £100 million worth of reasons why Manchester United might have to be even more special than they believe themselves to be if they are to win the European Cup....

Rugby union: Cliff Brittle, the chairman of the RFU management board, challenged the game to accept a revolutionary vision of English rugby.... .. Page 49.

Swimming: James Hickman won the 200 metres butterfly at the British championships but the race will have to be swum again because of a starting-block problem Page 50 Richard Morrison: Next Tuesday the J. Paul Getty Centre opens. The product of a £700-million building project, it is the costliest art gallery on Earth

Actor triumphs: Phillip Voss turns in a superb performance as Shylock in the RSC's production of The Merchant of Venice Page 35 Pop on Friday: Robert Miles may have sold 13 million records but he can still walk down the street unnoticed... Page 36

Albume of the year: From Roni Size to Supergrass, Caitlin Moran and David Sinclair choose their top pop releases of 1997 _____Page 37 Solo comedian: After a Perrier Award and a hit single, Frank Skinner has become Britain's most

popular comedian Page 38

TOMORROW

INTHE SATURDAY TIMES

■ DISCO CLASSICS The return of sparkly boob-tubes and sequined trousers

MARCO ON MICHELIN Marco Pierre White gives his judgment on one-star L'Escargot Giam rock retro: From the cover of this month's Vogue, the image of Stella Termant stares out. She is wearing an Armani net shirt em-

broidered in glitter thread and pearls Gone to the dogs: It is the lights that you see first, the neon glare drawing you through an East End night, and then the studium: the Saw, as the regulars say .. Page 21 Christmas icon: In Naples, Diana, Princess of Wales has been promoted to a crib figure......Page 21

in the sir: Richard Branson's failure to circumnavigate the world has been more than matched by the need to establish himself as a serious media player Page 42 Fighting table Punch is being talked about again. But is it the right publicity for its publisher Mohamed Al Fayed Page 45

Typecast: Teachers appear to belong to two main personality types. which are related to the age range of the children they choose to teach ...

A united Europe is being built in our lifetime after being long-awaited. The communal defence or for Europe is not a utopia, it is a

RADIOST

Preview: A young PC has a fraught baptism and Rik Mayali plays straight. The Bill (ITV, Spm). Review: Matthew Bond enjoys the disgustingly funny men on the

or in con

Rebels with a cause A.Government that prided itself on

control and discipline lost both on Wednesday night Page 23

Climate in the Senate

Although Vice President Albert Gore hailed the accord as a "vital turning point" and President Clinton showed similar enthusiasm, it is unlikely that the US Senate will agree with them Page 23

Forked tongues

Mr Adams wants the British public to believe he is a modern Nujomo or a Gaelic Mandela, a reluctant fighter crying freedom in a foreign tongue...

The Contract

MATTHEW PARRIS Imagine there existed on these islands a state within the State. Let

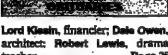
us call it Volsec..... JOHN LLOYD

Terrorists spend their youth being hunted as murderers, their middle age being fêted as freedom fighters and their later years ruling as presidents...

PHILIP HOWARD

Package tours have replaced the schooner Hispaniola, and so scaltered the mystery of the Treasure Islands of the world. But tax havens in Guernsey or the Cayman Islands sound as mysteriously exotic to most people... PETER RIDDELL

Freedom of information is an elusive concept, desirable in principle in a generalised good government way but often harder to define in practice.....

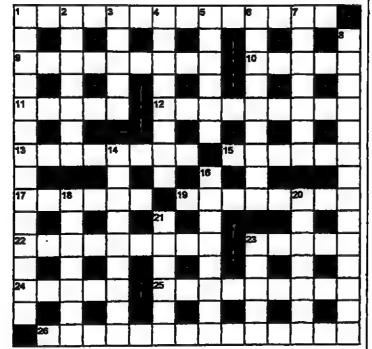


ETTERS .

Power of the whips; doorsteps; Opera House; Branson's balloon; antidepressants; prejudice in Scotland; Jacob of Ancona Page 23

La Figaro 4, 17, 22, 29, 38, 48. Bonus: 20

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,661



ACROSS

(9).

1 Construction in Kensington reminiscent of one close to Vic-

toria (6,8). 9 Old weapon the heartless butcher ordered (9).

10 Ancient historian America ignored is silent (5). 11 A king sleeping gets very hot (5).

12 One of the oldest diggers found spring in Lincoln (9). 13 The number of a colleague on the

other side (8). 15 Drive from a rendezvous (6).

17 Try again to get nurse to swallow jelly, for example (6).

19 Grub enthusiast trapping unknown pest in hothouse (5,3). 22 A belief that's universally shared?

Solution to Puzzle No 20.660



23 Native leader wearing old gar ment in Pacific kingdom (5). Dispatch a letter, perhaps, I have sent back to court (5).

Painstaking crook up to no good is Asian (9). Working in a black market? (6-8).

DOWN 1 Bookmaker who makes a life for himself? (14). 2 Splinter in the saddle makes one

lose control (5.2). 3 Canon's cycle (5). 4 Indian radio operator held up desert army (8).

5 Proposal to bring it up within a month (6). 6 Recovery following run-out for a duck after a good shot (9).

7 How to get rid of lots of conflict about university (7). 8 Tatler writer in a frenzy about nogood print (5,9). 14 Parking inside this gate, abandoned busy junction (9).

16 Scout, having embarked, at sea 18 This alien set about English (7). 20 Asian mountain I drag my feet up

21 Natural medicine (6). 23 Title role from libretto's Callas part (5).



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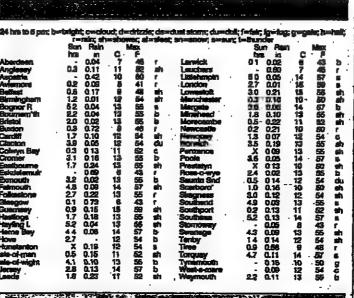


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CI General: Colder scross England and Wales, Early showers in southeast England and East Angla will cleer away, giving all parts of southern Britain a dry, sunny day. parts of southern Bittain a dry, surny day. Scotland mainly dry and surny, but western Scotland will be showery, with the showers merging at times to give a longer spell of ruin. Northern Ireland will have surnry spells and occasional showers. The Irish Republic dry but rather cloudy later. Tonight, cold over England and Waise with clear skies; sharp frost inland. Other areas cloudier with showers. D London, Cent S, E, SW, NW, Cent N, NE England, Midlands, Wales, Lakes, loNt Dry with plenty of sunstains. Light or moderate wind, between southwest and northeest. Max SC (48F). SE England, E Anglia, Channel In: Early showers clearing quickly to give a dry day with plenty of sunshine. Light or

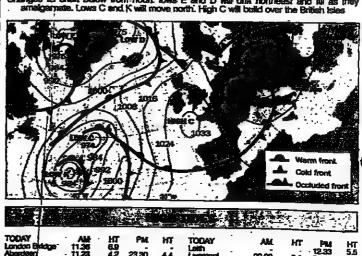
moderate NW wind, Max BC 148F). ☐ Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Abdeen, Moray Firth, ME Scotland, Oney: Dry. Sunny Intervals, especially Imming. Presh SW wind, Mex 8C (46F). vais and showers, merging to give longer upells of rain later. Strong acuthweet wind, Max 8C (48F).

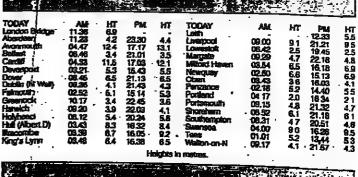
☐ N Ireland: Dry with suriny Intervals first. Cloudier with some showers later. Iresh southwesterly wind, Mex 8C (46F). ☐ Republic of Ireland: Dry with surrry











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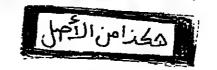


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INSIDE **SECTION**



ECONOMICS

Anatole Kaletsky looks back on a tempestuous year PAGE 31



MEDIA

Why journalism is poorer without Woodrow Wyatt **PAGE 43**



SPORT

Stewart's century paves way for England victory **PAGES 46-52**

TELEVISION AND RADIO

PAGES 50, 51

Korea in crisis as

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

currency falls on debt fears

last week may not be enough to stabilise market conditions, saying that it would be suffi-

But his reassurances came

amid reports that South Korea

would ask the IMF to speed up

the delivery of \$21 billion in

search at ABN AMRO Houre

Govett in Seoul, said: "If the

situation does not improve in

So far. Seoul has received a

mere \$5.6 billion of the IMF-

has used the cash to prop up

mation, Kim Young sam, South Koreas President, said

that he would honour the

However his words

sounded hollow amid mount-

ing concern that South Ko-

rea's next president, to be

elected next week, will reject

the austerity measures being

The front-running candi-

date, Kim Dae-jung, has vowed to renegotiate the res-

demanded by the Fund.

cue loans deal if he wins.

in a televised address to the

its dwindling reserves.

cient for now.

THE Asian financial crisis intensified yesterday as the South Korean won fell 10 per cent in four minutes on fears that the country is in an even worse economic position than had been feared,

A leading international credit rating agencies downgraded the country's debt because of suspicions that its debts are far greater, and its foreign exchange reserves much smaller, than the Government has disclosed.

Trading at Seoul's foreign currency exchange came to a grinding halt within a few minutes of opening for the second day running as the won plunged another 10 percent — its permissible limit -1,719,80 to the US dollar.

Analysis said that it was dict the future movement of the won, which has lost half of its value against the US dollar this year. "We are in uncharted territory in terms of won devaluation and its hard to make logical arguments where it will stop because its fall is based on such negative sentiment," said H Jin Lee an analyst at KEB Smith Barney

Securities in Secul. The won's plunge took its toll of the stock market which fell by nearly nearly six per-cent to close at 377.77, down 22.48 points. Yesterday's gov erument move to open the stock market to foreign investors days earlier than planned failed to shore up the market One local broker said that foreign investors regarded the move as "another South Kore-

Events in Secul battered markets throughout Asia. Ja-pan, whose banking system is badly exprised to South Korea and with this a leadin experter to the cleanty, suffered badly, the side market dropping by around Frier cent. Hong Kong

shares also slumped. The knack-on effect in Europe and on Wall Street was severe. In London, heavy selling of British banks with beavy exposure to Asia helped to push the FTSE 100 index to a loss of nearly 2 per cent. The index closed 94.8 points lower at 5.035.9. On Wall Street, the Dow lottes industrial average was 137.01 down at 7.841.78 at

Lim Chang yuel, South Koreas Finance Minister, said yesteday that the country's trable foreign exchange reserves stood at \$10 billion (£6) silion). He countered speculation that the \$57 billion packa age put in place by the IMF

Cassidy loses Liberty in showdown





Elizabeth Stewart-Liberty and Denis Cassidy yesterday after the shareholder vote that saw the chairman ousted

Chairman forced out by vote at EGM

BY PAUL DURMAN

DENIS CASSIDY yesterday lost his battle to stay as chairman of Uberty, raising the spectre of further boardroom turbulence at the London depariment store company.

Before he was voted out of office, Mr Cassidy told shareholders at yesterday's meeting of Liberty's shareholders that it was unlikely that the ap-pointment of Brian Myerson and Odile Griffith as new directors "will lead to a harmonious working relationship within the board". He suggested the positions of lan Thomdirector who has taken over as chairman, may quickly be-

come untenghie. Mr Thomson and Mr Garety, along with Liberty's other two directors, strongly backed Mr Cassidy in his attempt to defeat the motion for his removal brought by Mr Myerson, who controls a 16.9 per cent stake, and the Siewart-Liberty family, who control 27.1 per cent. Ms Griffith is adviser to Elizabeth Stew art-Liberty, widow of a former chairman of the company.

Mr Thomson and Garety vesterday defended the plans for a £43 million redevelopment of the Regent Street store, which Mr Myerson and the Stewart-Libertys have criticised for being staggeringly

expensive.

Mr Cassidy's removal was backed by 48.1 per cent of the shares, meaning the concert party picked up only I per cent outside their own holdings. The concert party did not receive the support of a single institution.

Unstable door, page 31

BUSINESS TODAY

Less damage

The first signs that the pound may be over for exporters came yesterday from the Confederation of British Industry. Its latest survey showed a modest improvement in export orders. Page 28

Bid talks

Shares in Triplex Lloyd rose from 229 p to 263 p as the Midlands engineer admitted that it was in £186 million takeover talks.

Lucas Varity prepares to make acquisitions

LUCASVARITY, the engineering group formed in a transatlantic merger last year, has said it is on the hunt for acquistions after selling its VarityPerkins diesel engine business to Caterpillar of the

The sale of VarityPerkins signals a change in strategy aimed at improving the company's rating LucasVarity shares have struggled since Lucas of the UK and Varity of the US merged in September 1996. Having reached a high of 259p, the shares have fallen. closing at 1925 p yesterday.

The disposal follows an

approach from Caterpillar, which had sought to buy the engine maker before the merger and is ultimately Varity-Perkins' main customer.

Victor Rice, chief executive of Lucas Varity, said the board. braking systems; other auto-decided to sell because of new motive, which includes diesel

US laws on engine emissions. These bring engines designed for use in construction or agriculture, the focus of VarityPerkins' operations, into line with the diesel en-

gines used in cars and trucks. LucasVarity said it would need to expand in the latter category to stay competitive and this would have been too difficult. It said the £803 million sale price is more than an internal valuation of the subsidiary. One City analyst said: "It's a very good price for Perkins but the deal will be dilutive unless they find something to do with the money."

VarityPerkins employs just over 4,000 people at sites in Peterborough, Stafford and Shrewsbury. Once the sale is complete, LucasVarity will have three main divisions:

onents. Up to £800 million has been earmarked for acquisitions in these areas.

Lucas Varity also an-nounced yesterday that it was not going to produce a diesel fuel injection system designed for Volkswagen. The scrapped system did not meet the company's criteria for likely prof-its. A spokesman said it would have applications in other activities. The company also said it has customer commitments worth £500 million to supply fuel injection systems to Ford and Renault.

Third-quarter results showed that operating profit margins increased in all divisions against the second quarter, except for diesel engines, which fell from 8.5 per cent to 8.3 per cent. Third-quarter profit was £85 million before tax, on £1.16 billion total sales.

Jobs exodus for FSA also-rans

By OUR CITY STAFF

thority (FSA), the new superregulator, is braced for an exodus of senior staff after today's board meeting to approve 15-20 top appointments. The watchdog is believed to have received close to 100 applications for the jobs, mostly from within the existing regulators, including the Personal Investment Authority and Investment Management

Regulatory Organisation. It is expected that many of the unsuccessful applicants will leave the FSA, rather than face effective demotion. The appointments will be at director level, reporting to the three co-managing directors named by Howard Davies, executive chairman, earlier this year. Staff morale is already low because of uncertainty over

Thought for the day

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Freedman in the Soup after agreed takeover

THE former venture capitalist who. 1985. He left his job as a small helped to oust Andrew Palmer from companies analyst at Capel-Cure Mythe board of his ground-breaking New E Covent Garden Soup Company yester

S Daniels, the food company chaired by Cyril Freedman, is buying NCGS for a maximum £24 million. Mr Palmer is expected to receive more than £2 million for his stake. S Daniels also plans to raise 15.3 million through the placing of 18 million shares at 36p each.

NCGS, which has patented its method of mass producing fresh-tasting soup and now makes chilled baked beans, was founded by Mr Palmer in

ers to work in NCGS's kitchens. Mr Palmer later sold shares to Apax day took control of the business. Partners die venture capitalist group through an agreed takeover bid. of which Mr Freedman was a partner to raise cash. The relationship turned sour, and in 1993 Apax helped to force many buyers or sellers. Mr Palmer to stand down. He was

replaced by a team of managers.

Mr Freedman has turned S Daniels from a struggling tea and coffee business into a successful fresh food producer since he joined in 1995. He said he expected the expanded company - worth about £36 million - to double in size within the next five years.

Exchange may alter 'incorrect' Sets prices

THE London Stock Exchange may alter closing share prices on New Year's Eve if it feels they are not correct". The unprecedented proposal follows anxiety that the new trading system. Sets, may be manipulated on December 31. Prices formed under Sets can be volatile if there are not

Because volumes are normally light on December 31, a half-day in dealing rooms, fund managers are worried that end-of-year fund valuations may be artificially cut by rogue orders driving down the FISE 100 index. reducing their performance fees. The Exchange said yesterday it

would meet with "key market constituents", probably from its committees, to decide a formula that will enable it to recognise "anomalous closing prices". These closing prices, derived from

the last trade, will be struck out and a substitute inserted. This could be the price of the penultimate trade or a calculation using a formula agreed by market participants. Only the figure used in index calculations and individual stock valuations would change. A plan to cut the half day to two hours or even one hour of trading has been shelved, although trading will be cut by 20 minutes, with a session from 8.30am to 12.10pm on December 31.

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Global banking deal

poised for completion

NEGOTIATORS are "poised for a deal" to open up global banking, insurance and other financial services to interna-

tional competition, Sir Leon Brittan, the European Union

Trade Commissioner, said yesterday. Sir Leon, speaking on

the eve of today's deadline to wrap up an accord, commented:

The apple is ripening rapidly on the tree, but needs a touch

more sun to fall into our lap."

But despite the upbeat public comments there lurks serious

worries that the Asian financial turmoil and American

political objections threaten to halt, dilute or delay the deal

just hours before the midnight deadline. Clinton administra-

tion officials were expected to meet in Washington to discuss the options. Renato Ruggiero, head of the World Trade Organisation chief, said: "Failure? I do not foresee that. No

one has told me that they want to withdraw from the deal

being worked out in Geneva." Numerous bilateral meetings are taking place today to work on final sticking points, and all participants are due to hold an informal meeting at the end of

Zeneca expands plants

ZENECA is investing more than E9 million in manufacturing plants for two new drugs. The investment at its Zeneca Pharmaceuticals' Avion site, near Bristol, will create 25 jobs.

The additional capacity follows the successful launch of

Accolate, an asthma treatment, for sale overseas, and

Seroquel, a treatment for schizophrenia and approved in the

Small firms will be able to charge base rate plus 8 per cent, says minister

Late payment levy to be tougher than expected

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

SMALL businesses that are owed payment by big companies will be able to charge interest on the debts at a tougher than expected rate under a new law proposed by the Government. Small businesses will be able to demand interest on late payment at base rates plus 8 per cent after the Bank of England and businesses told the Department of Trade and Industry that it should increase the rate it had planned

to impose. The DTI had intended the penalty

to be base rates plus 4 per cent. Barbara Roche. the minister with responsibility for for small firms, denied that the interest rate in the Bill on late payment was punitive. She said the level was based on the rate at which business could borrow.

The Bill, which should become law by July. will be phased in across the whole of business over four years. Initially small enterprises such as those with fewer than 50 employees will be able to take action against large companies and public sector organisations. After two years, small businesses will also be

the previous two months, and

economic analysis associate

director, said: "The slight im-

provement in export demand

over the past month provides a

welcome breathing space for

sterling's strength is still hav-

ing an adverse effect on the

ability of companies to attract

orders from overseas

A range of City economists took the view that the collapse in manufacturers' export or-ders seemed to be easing, with

some of them suggesting that

the CBI's figures might show

that the worst might now be

over for UK exporting firms as

sterling's appreciation has

Indeed, the improvement in export orders, together with domestic orders continuing to hold up, was sufficient to push

the balance of firms reporting

total orders to be above nor-

mal into the positive for the

first time in two years, with a

net 2 per cent of companies

recording above-normal total

As a result, City analysis suggested that the survey's findings were better than had

been expected, and that, ac-

cordingly, the base rate should

However, the survey

showed that manufacturers'

output expectations confirm

the predicted slowdown in

of 10 per cent of companies

reporting a likelihood of out-

put rising being half what it

Although still-weak export

was two months ago.

time last year.

rth, with the net balanc

be put on hold.

-37 per cent in August. Sudhir Junankar, the CBI

hard-pressed exporters. "However, this good news cannot disguise the fact that

able to charge small business interest. After a further two years all businesses will be covered by the law. The phasing gives small businesses, which may not always have the resources or the expertise, time to get their house in order.

Mrs Roche said the Bill - which has been criticised by small business groups - would help to change the culture of business

She said: "You can't have a piece of legislation that automatically overnight changes the payment culture."

The DTI's moves to tackle late payment

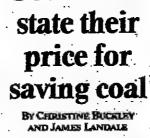
through statutory interest have been attacked for not getting to grips with cash flow difficulties. Business groups have also complained that the right to interest payments will be difficult to implement because small companies will jeopardise contracts if they

Mrs Roche said the means by which the ght is enforced would be up to the companies. They could submit new invoices with the interest added on and if the debtor refused to settle then they would have redress through

Generators state their price for saving coal

BIG PAYBACKS to the elec tricity generators are expected to be delivered soon by the Government in return for their help in ensuring the short-term survival of the coal

Geoffrey Robinson, the Paymaster General, is understood tained until the end of June. In return each generator is



to have asked the generators what the Government could do for them if they ensured a future for coal. A critical meeting between the heads of National Power, The Energy Group and PowerGen on Wednesday guaranteed a short-term survival plan for coal just hours before the Prime Minister delivered his pledge that current level coal production would be mainthought to have demanded concessions from the Government. It is expected that PowerGen, where Ed Wallis is chairman and chief executive, will be allowed to buy a regional electricity company, while The Energy Group would have pressed its case that the moratorium on new gas-fired power stations should not last. National Power is likely to have raised wider issues concerning mar-ket share and the review into the electricity trading market. Further talks will be held between Mr Robinson and the generators on boosting stocks to beyond the end of June to

UK and US. The plants are part of a £1.5 billion international investment programme at Zeneca's drugs business. The Accolate plant will go into full production in 1998 and the Seroquel plant in the first half of 1999. US rethinks price index

the day to take stock of progress.

THE American Government is considering changing the way that it calculates the Consumer Price Index, which may lead to a cut of up to a quarter-percentage point in the nation's main gauge of inflation. An armouncement is planned by the end of the year. It could result in reduced cost-of-iving increases for social security and could also affect investments. abour contracts and other agreements tied to the index. Any changes would take effect in early 1999. Since April, the Labour Department's Bureau of Labour Statistics has been publishing an experimental price index.

Filtronic to withdraw bid

FILTRONIC COMTEK is seeking Australian Securities Commission clearance to withdraw its £7 million bid for Mitec, the microwave electronics company. Filtronic said that significant resources will now be made available to expand Filtronic's Asia regional headquarters, adding that the company plans to develop a new facility in Australia and to recruit new staff, particularly microwave engineers. Filtronic Comtek said: The organic growth planned will be similar to that achieved in Filtronic Comtek operations in the UK and the US which now employ 1,000 people."

Japan fund down £4m

JAPAN'S worsening economic crisis wiped £4 million off the value of the Martin Currie Japan Investment Trust in the six months to November 30, leaving it with assets of £18.9 million. The undiluted net asset value per share slumped 20.9 per cent from 100.4p to 79.4p. John Drysdale, chairman, said that core holdings in blue-chip exporters had prevented the trust from falling as far as its benchmark, the Topix index, which crashed by 25 per cent. There will be no dividend.

ILP shares boosted

SHARES in ILP, the Irish protective packaging from 24p to 29 p yesterday after it revealed that it had received a number of approaches that may lead to an offer being made for the company. At yesterday's closing price the company was worth £6.36 million on the stock market. ILP said that shareholders would be kept informed of develop-ments. In 1996 ILP made £1.07 million of profit on sales of £11.9 million. The shares, which reached a high of 782p earlier this year, have come up from a recent low of 21 ap.

Allders

ALLDERS' pre-tax profits of £40.4 million for the year to the end of September 1996 included a profit of £33.2 million on the disposal of the international tax and duty free operations (Tempus, December 9). The company's underlying pre-tax profits for that year were £7.2 million, compared with £23.1 million for the year to September 30, 1997.

Co-op to sell superstores

THE Co-operative Wholesale Society (CWS), the retailer that earlier this year thwarted a El.2 billion attempted bid by Andrew Regan, is to sell its 19 superstores, raising up to £300

order books are pushing down output expectations, the outmillion (Jason Nissė writes). look for price inflation re-The disposal comes after a mains promising, with price expectations "significantly" strategic review by LEK, the management consultants, and lower than they were at this the appointment of Malcolm Hepworth, a former director

of Somerfield, as retail controller. He takes the post vacated when Allan Green was fired in May for passing information to Mr Regan. Following the review, CWS

is to concentrate on convenience stores and stores in market towns. Bill Shannon, head of corporate affairs, said that its 19 superstones — each with more than 25,000 sq ft of sales

space -- will be "recycled" to finance investment in the restof the chain. The sell-off will be piecemeal as rival food retailers show interest in sites. The CWS has appointed two

shape a medium and long-

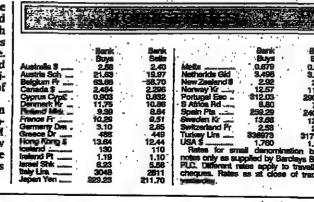
term future for the industry.

new directors to its executive board. They are Trevor Hughes, who is integrating its supply operation, and Mervyn Pedelty, the Co-operative Bank chief executive.



Granada last year invested £120 million in its hotel divi-

Sir Rocco was ousted from Forte early in 1996 after Gran-ada's E3.9 billion takeover. M. Cau's arrival may herald a new period of growth for Forte Hotels, whose performance has improved under Granada.



In its latest monthly trends survey of almost 1,100 manuwhose latest industrial survey showed a modest improvefacturers, accounting between them for almost half the UK's ment in manufacturers' export manufactured exports, the While the City saw the latest CBI survey as an indication of an easing of the pressure from CBI said that 13 per cent of manufacturers judged their sterling, confederation leaders export order books to be above remained cautious, suggesting normal, and 42 per cent said that they were below normal. that it might well be only a Although this still gave a respite from the impact of the balance of -29 per cent, sug-gesting a continuing fall in strong pound. CBI leaders said that the

Bank investigates First Merchant

By RICHARD MILES, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

ROBERT YOUNG, an independent financial trader who is facing charges in Jersey for his part in an alleged \$27 million (E16 mi)lion) currency fraud, is at the centre of a second financial

THE first signs that the worst

effects of a strong pound may be over for British exporters

came yesterday from the Con-

federation of British Industry.

strength of sterling was con-

tinuing to have "an adverse

The Bank of England has obtained court injunctions seeking to bar Mr Young and two associates. Marish Chobrzynski and Mark Bullen, from accepting bank deposits under the trade name of First Merchai company based in or around Nottingham.

The Bank has also obtained injunctions seeking to freeze the three men's assets while a number of suspected offences under the Banking Act 1987 are investigated.

The injunctions follow coordinated action with the isie of Man Financial Su-

pervision Commission last week in Douglas and on the mainland. The Bank is eager to hear from any members of the public who have had dealings with First Merchant, sometimes known as First Merchant

CBI cautious over

signs that export

pressure is easing

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

effect on export demand", though they thought that the

sharp deterioration on order

books in the middle of the year

now seemed to have halted.

exports, it compares with bal-

ances of -34 and -33 per cent in

full trial in Jersey over the alleged \$27 million currency dealing fraud involving Privare Switzerland, a subsidiary of UBS, the Swiss bank that earlier this week announced a \$59 billion merger with Swiss Bank Corporation.



Cantrade has offered compensation of \$15 million to the investors allegedly duped by Mr Young, but their lawyers have rejected this as "pathetically inadequate".



Ed Wallis of PowerGen is looking for a purchase

Albert E Sharp to shed 120

By RICHARD MILES

ALBERT E SHARP, one of the UK's biggest stockbrokers, is to lay off 120 back-office staff after outsourcing its administration to Pershing, the clearing service owned by Donaldson Lufkin & Jenrette, the US investment bank.

Sharp, based in Birmingham, has been working with its regulator, the Securities and Futures Authority, to re-solve a series of problems with its administration systems. Bill Dacombe, chairman and chief executive, said that

the five-year outsourcing deal

would end the "complete diversion of effort" that the systems glitches had necessitated The problems were clearly a hore which involved us in taking people out of the front-office," he said. "We will now be able to focus on our core

and managing funds." The job losses at its Birmingham headquarters, representing a fifth of Sharp's workforce, will not take place until April. The company is

expected to make a provision in next year's accounts to cover the cost of the redundancies. Development of software for Crest, the share settlement sys-

tem, and the sheer volume of

business generated by a wave of demutualisations have caused administrative problems for many stockbrokers. The worst affected has been financial expertise of advising Fidelity Brokerage Services, which the SFA forced to close to new business for six months.



Takeover talk, page 32 | Cau: to run 253-hotel chain

ago (Jon Ashworth writes). Antoine Cau, 50, a Frenchman who speaks four lan-guages and lives in London,

will next month join Forte Hotels as its chief executive. After seven years as president of Hertz International, he is taking charge of a 253-hotel worldwide chain made up of

sion, which generates sales of about £1 billion a year.

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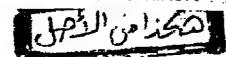
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the nation's financial regulators are in a state of high expectation. Any day now their new supremo, Howard Davies, will announce the lucky winners of top jobs with his Financial Services Authority. But for many, the expectation will for many, the expectation will soon turn to disappointment and, perhaps, disaffection.

and plants

price index

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How tril

91 N 2 2

The structure of the FSA as an amalgam of existing regulatory bodies means that for every appointment Davies makes, he is turning down several applicants. The chap responsible for overseeing tea and coffee supplies at the SFA may be lucky enough to find himself cast in that role at the FSA but that means that his equivalent over at the PIA will equivalent over at the PIA will have to revert to an apparently inferior role. It may be true, as the counsellors will no doubt claim, that being in charge of sugar rations at the FSA is just as important and pays as well, if not better, than the old tea and coffee job at the PIA, but the argument is unlikely to be persuasive. is unlikely to be persuasive, particularly as clients are likely to be beckoning with thick wads of notes for regulators prepared to bring their experience to the other side.

The drift of staff away from the regulators to come to the aid of the regulated has already caused problems for the authorities who must continue to carry out their duties while the FSA takes shape. The latest wave of appointments could precipitate a damaging torrent of senior level departures.

Regulating the flow of regulators

The public-spirited Davies is already having to cope with horrendous squabbling as he tries to construct his grand high regulator. Salaries, inevitably, are at issue since the structures vary greatly among the FSA components. The SFA, for instance, has become accustomed to remuneration levels which, while hardly on a par with those while hardly on a par with those City firms it regulates, do not value its staff too insultingly by comparison. PIA staff are less easily insulted.

There are also issues of status involved. Losing the kudos of working for the Bank of England constitutes a bad enough blow to those of its staff who now find themselves consigned towards the FSA. But the prospect of leaving the marbled elegance of Threadneedle Street for Docklands, and modern open plan

offices, is intolerable.

Davies's problems are exacerbated by the increasing demand for compliance staff within the City. Because the compliance role has only recently evolved, there is a shortage of experienced people, which makes the regulatory authorities an obvious huning ground. Recruits can quickly find their salaries



هكذا من رلامل

to keep their compliance staff.

Tricky questions arise in the area of bonuses, so crucial to the City

salary.

The job of the compliance officer may entail saying no more often than yes, but, however sound the decision, a deal undone does not yield the same potential profit, for which read bonus, as does the deal that proceeds. Enter that contradictory concept of the guaranteed bonus. The FSA may find it useful.

Korean infection travels by junk

K orea is coming back to haunt the West. When US agencies downgrade debt of the world's eleventh biggest. economy almost to junk bond status, Korean markets melt down and even Europe and North America feel the heat. There is plenty of scope for

than the realistic terms the IMF asked of Britain in 1976, or its schoolmasterly approach to the poor and wayward, the IMFs loan terms to Korea have the punitive tone of a treaty imposed on a defeated foe after war. Nor need Koreans speculate on conspiracy theories. Americans openly seek to use this opportu-nity to shackle Korea and pro-mote Western trade interests.

That might not matter if the crisis had not struck when Korea had a lame-duck government. The package has become a key issue in next week's presidential elections. Kim Dae-jung, perpetual leader of the opposition, hints at renegotiation if he is finally swept into power and declares that some conditions simply cannot be met.

This invitation to rebel against

the IMF's surrender terms makes financial markets yet more nervous. Foreign investors are hardly likely to take up the invitation to vile money in when the won is in free fall. Should it steady and foreigners buy Korean industry at fire-sale prices, street reactions might be worse. The West has started a new

trade campaign, putting pres-sure on Asian trading partners through the International Labour Office and the World Trade Organisation to beef up worker rights and trade union representation. But the fruits of such efforts, were they successful, can be seen in Seoul. Powerful trade unions have made Korea's industries far less competitive and blocked economic reform, both legislatively and on the ground. Spurred by the election debate

they will not readily accept the loss of about a million jobs, the ending of lifetime employment and the cuts in real and money wages that the IMF programme requires. If the IMFs vision of the world is to prevail, the West's efforts to promote union power in emerging economies seems rather like Germany sending

Lenin to Russia in a sealed train 80 years earlier. Not for nothing is Tony Blair's Government, a disciple of the IMF school, rap-

idly growing cool on union representation at home.

If Korea's epidemic of economic illnesses infects Western markets more seriously, Europe and America many secret taking and America may regret taking their revenge through the IMF.

Tweedie's public finance initiative

7 ith an impeccably cute sense of timing, Sir David Tweedie, chairman of the Accounting Standards Board, has issued a dire warning over the Government's private finance initiative and the possibility of accounting treat-ments being applied which could mislead Parliament.

The Minister in charge of the PFI will be doubly anxious to avoid any such risks, since he is none other than Geoffrey Robin-son, specially installed in that role because of his business expertise.
Sir David does not suggest that

PFI might be a convenient way for the Government to channel profits from road tolls and the like into off-shore accounts but he is concerned that the full extent of Government's financial commitment in PFI projects might not be always apparent.

The Conservatives came up with PFI as a means of bringing capital projects to fruition courtesy of private sector investment. It is the governmental equivalent of off-balance sheet finance, a device which leaves the public sector borrowing requirement happily unscathed.

But contractors have proved wary of taking on all the risk in PFI projects and the scheme has moved only slowly: around £7.5 billion of contracts have so far been committed. So Government must provide encouragment in the form of promises to make the job worthwhile, know what I mean. Sir David, quite rightly, wants to be sure that the cost of those promises shows up on the national budget.

Troubled waters

WEST of Scotland Water stands accused by a local Labour MP of "appalling communication and slow action," after supplies were ruined by a diesel leak at its illnamed Burncrooks treatment works in Drymen. This shows the danger of quangos who fail to answer to the public. Quite so. Consumers are stuck with un-accountable quangos because self-righteous Scots insisted that

Racal falls but signals immediate intentions

BY RAYMOND SNODDY, MEDIA EDITOR

Data Communications from £12.5 million to £21.9 million.

Racal said the decision to

sell Data Communications

would leave management free

to focus on remaining busi-

nesses which were all in growth areas and which had

produced operating profits of £100 million in 1996 97.

Retirement was not on the horizon, Sir Ernest implied,

and certainly he intended staying beyond the disposal of.

Data Communications and

the floation of Racal Telecom.

He said: "This company has a

lot of shareholder value yet to

be released. I would like to make sure we achieve what we

Racal shares rose 14p to 2342p largely because of the removal of at least some of the

uncertainty surrounding the company in recent years and

the prospect of an end to losses

from Data Communications.

David Elsbury, Racal's chief

executive, will travel to the US

with a team of managers on

Monday to help to prepare the

know is possible."

SIR Ernest Harrison, chairman of Racal Electronics, yesterday pushed ahead with plans to sell tile group's loss-making Data Communications division and to "position" Recal Telecom for flotation

He refused to speculate on what the Deta Communications business might fetch or even what his hopes for a Racal Telecom floration might be, other than to say the aim was to maximise shareholder value.

Sir Ernest was speaking as the company announced that pre-tax profit in the six months to October 10 had plunged to 19.2 million compared with £21.2 million last time mainly because of increased losses at

Ex-estate agent to set Galley pay PROM DRIVER ANGUST

IN NEW YORK

CAROL GALLEY, believed to be the best-paid woman in the City, will have her remuneration set by a former estate agent after the E3 billion (E1.7 billion) takeover of Mercury Asset Management by Merrill Lynch

Jeffrey Peck, 50, will be in charge of overall co-ordination of Merrill's combined fund management operations overseeing \$275 billion in assets. A spokesman said Ms Galley, vice-chairman or MAM, will make her in-

vestment decisions independently. Ms Galley was paid £6 million last year and last month picked up another £10 million when she sold her MAM shares to Merrill. Under Mr Peek's steward

ship compensation levels could be cut. He has been heard to say that "bigger is not always better". Mr Peek, who graduated

from Harvard Business School before working in



Harvey Nichols record fall

BY FRASER NELSON

SHARES in Harvey Nichols yesterday suffered their sharpest-ever one-day fall after the upmarket London retailer gave warning that the strong pound is is making its wares too expensive for many

sale of the company.

A number of interesting The company, which relies on overseas visitors for a fifth offers and potential partnerships for the telecom business had been received, Sir Ernest confirmed, but the board felt that flotation was the best way to get maximum value. Clear-

tions arm that was valued by the market at £900 million. Michael Styles, the Credit Lyonnais analyst, now rates Racal a "buy" and suggested that in the end everything

ly Racal has watched the

could be up for sale.

After the results meeting Sir' Ernest conceded that there was going to be rationalisation in the defence electronics sector in Europe and that at one time or another Racal had been partners with most of the significant players.

Racal's turnover from ongo-

ing operations rose 13 per cent to £446 million, with profit from ongoing operations of £51.7 million before reorganisation costs compared with £54.3 million last time. The interim dividend is unchanged at 2.1p a share.

of its business, said that sales growth had slowed to 3 per cent over the past nine weeks

after 24 per cent growth at the September 27, a 10 per cent improvement on last time, The shares fell 11 per cent, to

a low of 193p, — 48 per cent off last year's high. Analysts feared that stock left on the shelves by tourists will have to be marked down in the January sales, and cut full-year profit forecasts to £13.5 million — some £2

million lower than forecasts. The company vesterday reported pre-tax profits of £6.07

after a strong contribution from its new store in Leeds.

Joseph Wan, chief executive, said that the company will name the site of its third department store by the end of next month. Industry sources said it will almost certainly choose Glasgow, and possibly share a site with John Lewis.

Mr Wan added that the company will open only one in Newcastle or Manchester - and then look at expanding into the Middle East.

Its Oxo Tower restaurant, opened in September last year, made a £382,000 profit on sales of £4.04 million after a half year of being almost always fully booked.

An interim dividend of 2.1p is due on February 12, suggesting a final payout of 7p.

Choose

Tempus, page 30

Pfizer gets £5m of tax money to spur more UK investment

By PAUL DURMAN

THE Government is to give one of the world's wealthlest companies £5.5 million of taxpayers' money to encourage it to invest £109 million in expanding its medicines research centre at Sandwich, Kent.
Pfizer, the US healthcare

group that has a market value of \$97 billion (£57 billion), has already invested £89 million in the UK this year, and has most of its existing 3,400 UK employees at Sandwich, Margaret Beckett, the President of the Board of Trade, defended the Government's assistance, saying: "This is exactly the kind of investment that Britain wants to attract, and the kind of jobs we need, if we are not just to prosper but to survive."

The 500,000 sq ft facility will create jobs for 650 scientists and support staff. With other transport, engineering and catering work created as a spinoff, the DTI hopes the benefit for the south-east Kent economy will be about 1,000 jobs.

Simon Campbell, the vicepresident responsible for Pfizer's European research and development, said the company's decision to expand in the UK had not been a foregone conclusion. Pfizer, which is investing heavily in new drug discovery as part of its bid to become the world's leading pharmaceutical group by 2001, could have located its new facilities in the US or

Japan. Dr Campbell said the

£3 million from the DTI and the accompanying £2.5 million from English Partnerhips, the Government's land regeneration agency, was a "significant factor" in the decision to expand the Sandwich site.
Pfizer's investment was

warmly welcomed by local politicians and the business community in Kent. Michael Noar, head of representation at the Kent Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said: This is a quality employer expanding and producing a lot of high quality jobs. It is precisely what Kent needs." The R&D work at Sandwich

helped to develop three of Pfizer's biggest selling drugs: Istin for angina and hypertension, Cardura for hypertension and benign prostatic hyperplasia, and Diffucan for treating the fungal infections suffered by Aids patients. Pfizer won its fourth Queen's Award for Exports this year, and was recently named as the most admired pharmaceutical company by Fortune magazine.

Highlighting Britain's strength in pharmaceutical science, Mrs Beckett said five of the world's 20 top medecines were discovered and developed in the UK. Dr Campbell urged Mrs Beckett to maintain the highest standards of excellence in the universities "after the previous decade in decline in Government support for science".

Insurers confident flotation of Energis, the Nat-ional Grid telecommunicaof meeting deadline

BY CAROLINE MERRELL

THE Association of British Insurers (ABI), the trade organisation for the life insurance industry, said yesterday that companies were on target to meet the end-of-year deadline for offering compensation to high-priority mis-selling cases.

The ABI said 83 per cent of the top priority cases - those who have retired, died or are close to retirement - had been completed by the end of November, compared with 71 per cent by the end of October. Regulators require that 90 per cent of compensation cases should be completed by the end of the year.

The ABI said figures indicatcompleted. Mark Boleat, ABI

then shift to meeting the requirement of the next most urgent cases by the end of 1998. "At the end of November, 48 per cent of all priority cases had been comple

nomic Secretary to the Treas-ury, emphasised that every firm was expected to honour the ed 16,056 cases still had to be personal pensions review.

director-general, said: "With 16,000 cases left to be completed, product providers are on track to meet the regulators' target of 90 per cent of priority one cases to be completed by the end of December." He said attention would

However, Helen Liddell, Eco-



*Roldec Systems PLC was placed ninth in the Virgin Atlantic Fast Track 100 published by the Sunday Times Newspaper



Tank Engine Thomas's US drive BY CHIEFS AYRES



Thomas: America bound

A TRIP across the Atlantic is planned for Thomas the Tank Engine 8 Friends after a licensing deal was signed yesterday between The Britt Alkroft Company and the Fox

Family Channel. Britt Alleroft, the Londonlisted company which produces distributes and licenses products based on fictional characters, has also signed a deal for its other property,

Shining Time Station. Shares in the company, which owns the rights to Captain Pugwash, rose 3p to

1332p yesterday. Since its high-profile flotation in Nov-ember 1996, its shares have performed unevenly, reaching a high of 1592p last year, then falling slightly below its

130p flotation price.

The agreement, for an undisclosed amount, involves the screening of episodes from the existing library of Shining Time Station and the new television films of Thomas the Tank Engine 8 Friends, currently being shot at Shepperton Studios in

until the year 2000. Britt Allcroft, the company's co-founder, said: "We have a strong reputation for popular quality screen story-telling with American parents and children and look forward to growing

Fox Family Channel."

She said the company had already licensed its Magic Adventures of Mumfie to Fox. and that a new series of stories was in co-production with D'Ocon Films of Barcelona.

the deal would boost profits our following with a new generation of viewers on the

Choose Roldec Systems Ple * the UK's fastest growing computer company Roldec PCT Box. fatel 440LX ASP Chinast **Predator** 512K Pipeline Burst L2 Cache System beutiru. 3.29h <10nm Litter ATA Hard Debe 15" SUGA 0.28th Colony Monitor 48th ATT Advanced AGP Grathics Ac 8.5" 1.449th Floppy Disk Deve • 24 Speed CD-ROM Drive On board 1888t Yamaha OPLS-SAS Audio 120Watt Multimedia Speaker System High quality Windows* 95 Keyboard Microsoft* Mouse • ATX Mini Tower or Desictop Case report" Windows 95 Preferated and Confidence e Community, levels, Mounts, 504 Outlier Band, Weberthermon, WAZ SM, For 01507 NO 25 92. Park Sites Incommunity of Motion; 01502 45 15 51. At observate, the recognised E & 0 E. The injury troub logo and Persison and Milit are registered make of latel cooperation. All femile manifested relate to each order explorers only. Support Hoting, 01902 45 15 51. Al 188



MICHAEL CLARK

Stock Market Writer

Far East and Dow falls put shares into reverse

FURTHER turmoil overnight in the Far East had investors in London on the run as share prices suffered sharp falls.

Down [3].] at its worst, the FTSE 100 index closed 94.8 lower at 5,035.9. Turnover was on the low side, with a total of 690 million shares traded.

Once again Sets, the new computerised trading system that matches buyer with seller automatically, must take part of the blame with hefty falls seen in some blue-chip stocks despite the apparent absence of any real selling pressure.

Wall Street only made matters worse, with the Dow Jones industrial average tumbling more than 160 points at one stage and adding to the unease of many investors.

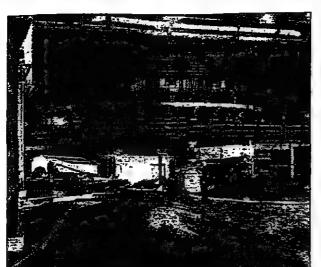
Abbey National resisted the trend with a rise of 22p to £10.35 amid claims it is about to hit the acquisition trail. General Accident, up 1612p at £10.54, Is being mentioned as a potential target. Abbey was also attracting positive com-ments from Merrill Lynch, the broker, which is believed to have upgraded its profit fore-SBC Warburg Dillon Read, the company's own joint broker, is positive about the stock but is sticking with its profit forecast of £1.34 billion for the current year.

The proposed flotation by GEC and Alcatel of their GEC Alsthom offshoot will be the biggest, the City has seen for some time, with Lehman Brothers, the US securities house, putting a price tag on the business of between £3.5 billion and £4 billion. Lehman said the flotation could be worth the equivalent of 64p a share for GEC, down 434p at

A downgrade by Deutsche Morgan Grenfell from "buy" to "accumulate" left British Steel 7p off at 132p as 9.28 million shares changed hands. British Telecom was another casualty, falling 314p to 472p after ABN Amro Hoare Govett shifted its recommendation from "undervalued" to "hold".

British Energy celebrated its elevation to the top flight with a jump of 13p to 437p. It will become a constituent of the top 100 companies on December 22 and will be joined by Amvescap, 3p firmer at 488p, and Mercury Asset **Management,** lp easier at

Mercury is currently on the



A downgrading knocked 7p off British Steel shares

billion bid from Merrill Lynch and will not become a constituent if the deal goes unconditional before then, its place will be taken by one of the companies dropping out, such as TI Group, down 131ap at 498p, Blue Circle, unchanged at at 325p, and RMC Group, down 7p at 903p. Others in the running include Nycomed Amersham, 212p dearer at £21.0712, Southern Electric.

FLAT PROFITS, SOUR TASTE

HP BULMER slumped to

a new three-year low with a

fall of 5p at 387 p after a

profits and dividend

downgrading by Goldman Sachs, the US securities

house. This followed

Wednesday's profits

The big three cidermak-

ers have been under a cloud

with Matthew Clark, 2p

p, and چirmer at 184

Merrydown, ip better at 64'2p, having hit the mar-

ket with profit warnings.

fall and the outlook for

them appears bleak.

6p higher at 49lp, and Compass Group, up 14p at 741 2p. Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, the broker, continues to take a cautious view of RJB Mining, down 10p at 170p.

Railtrack dropped another 53p to 943p as HSBC James Capel, the broker, urged clients to take profits.

Orange finished lp lower at 250p as Société Générale Strauss Turnbull turned sell-

the Jananese broker, said

Bulmer has been pouring

money into advertising

during the past year in

The decline appears to

have begun to bottom out

although we could see a

further decline short-term,"

Other cidermakers have

promoted their brands as

fashionable drinks, but

these soon wear out as

consumers move back to

should see things starting

to move forward again,

traditional drinks.

said Mr Carr.

order to recupture sales.

Shares in Synter Group, the vehicle distributor, were placed at 230p and after at 23112p. The slide continued for

almost £112. Prices closed near their best of the day. In the futures pit, the March series of the long gilt put on E1516 at £12112 as a total of 85,000 contracts were

in longs, Treasury 8 per cent 2021 finished £1816 higher at El217a, while in shorts Treasury 7 per cent 2002 was £1332 better at ElOisa

technology and financial sec-tors farther along their three-

clients to "sell" Argos, 18p off

GKN continued lose ground, falling 17p to E12.45. It was hit earlier this week by reports of a joint venture hetween the French car maker Renault and NTN Corporation of Japan to produce constant velocity joints at a factory in France.

News of a bid approach lifted Triplex Lloyd 34p to

263¹2p. Plasmee put on 40p to 225p after accepting terms of a 230p a share offer from Arlen, the electrical equipment supplier. valuing the business at Ell million. Arlen slipped 12p to

Jarvis firmed 312p to 34lp. Word is that UBS, the broker, is expected to publish a bullish review any day now setting a

target of 450p.
Shield Diagnostics sported a rise of 221 ap at 7221 ap. News is expected that the group has linked up with Abbot Laboratories in the US to develop its sytem for detecting heart ailments early on.

Autologic, the car logistics operator, was placed by Cazenove, the broker, at 250p. opened at 263p, and after touching a high for the day of 265p settled at 26412p, a premium of 1412p.

briefly touching 23812p, closed with a modest 112p premium

Bovis Homes, 612p down at 188'2p. That compares with the 200p the shares were placed at on Monday. GILT-EDGED: Bond prices extended this week's gains as investors continued

vals with rises stretching to

switching out of equities,

outperforming European ri-

☐ NEW YORK: Stocks plum-

meted on Wall Street as Asia's

MAJOR MORDES. 16050.15 (-422*.9*7) Hong Kong AFTER the initial enthusiasm late last year. Amsterdam: the formation of LucasVarity through the 883.53 (~26.77) merger of Lucas Industries with Varity Corp Sydney: of the US has failed to breathe new life into the 2516.8 (-37.9) shares. At 190p, they languish where they Frankfort were four years ago. 4030,16 (-67.11) The grinding out of inefficiencies, primarily in the old Lucas activities, is not the stuff of Singapore:

1664.28 (-39.24)

13912.44 (-194.61)

_ 101.72 (+0.74

Paris: 20145 (-10179) Zurich Loadon: 3228.9 (-38.5 FT 30 ___ FTSE 100 4753.8 (-15.5) FTSE 250 2477.6 (-38.4) FTSE Eurotrack 100 2637.06 (-43.13) 2371.6H (-35.52 FTSE Non Financiels _ 2387.37 (-31.76) FTEE Proof Interes ____ 134.39 (+1.19

Brassels

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German Mark 2,9322 (-0.0) 19 £:ECU E-SDR EP1 _____ 199.6 Nov (3.7%) Jam 1987=100 RPIX ____ ISBO Nov (2.8%) Jam 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

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pressure to make some quick buys to minimise the dilutive effect of the sale. arranged before the company is even close to completing its strategic review. There was some disappointment yesterday

divisions. He will undoubtedly be under

viewin vefore

with the news that the electronic unit injector (EUI) diesel injection system will not be put into production for Volkswagen, although the delays in announcing a firm go-ahead had led analysts, who say the technology got super-seded, to expect problems. Lucas varity says it is unlikely that there will need to be a provision for this curtailment.

The shares barely moved yesterday and will await evidence of Mr Rice's success in acquisitions. An update on the strategy review will be at the end of March. Hold until then, unless a big deal is made in the meantime.

Racal

been considering.

THERE was an audible sigh of relief yesterday when Racal Electronics confirmed its well-trailed decisions to sell the loss-making Data Communications, division "position" Racal Telecom for flotation.

headlines. Even though steady quarterly

improvements have been achieved, the shares

have been depressed by currency pessimism

and a feeling that a rerating would require

something dramatic - more than the change

of name Victor Rice, the chief executive, had

The sale of VarityPerkins could be the

catalyst. It looks like a good price and leaves

Mr Rice with a war chest of up to £800 million

to augment the automotive and aerospace

The City had been advising Sir Ernest Harrison to rid himself of the burden of the Florida-based company for some time so could hardly complain when he finally took their advice.

Uncertainty remains, however. Sir Ernest was short on detail yesterday about what his hopes are for the sale or how a flotation could turn out. That inevitably means that the shares at this moment remain a bit of a punt until more hard information becomes available. If, as many have been suggesting, Racal is worth more than the

sum of its parts then it is exact provenance of this relatively easy to get to a £3 share price. The company was able to

Catalytic converter

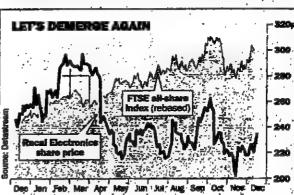
point to strong and improving performance in everything from defence radar and avionics to instrumenta-

tion and recording. A few cynical voices could

be heard in the analyst community last night on the

year's £100 million of operational profit from continuing

Sir Ernest is known as a proud and rather stubborn man and he is probably worth an each way bet on being able to sort out the - or as he pors it release more shareholder value — before he bows out.



Harvey Nichols

THE Bollinger corks that flew into the air when Harvey Nichols floated last year are now returning back to earth to batter the heads of those who imagined they

were buying into a classier version of Marks & Spencer. This year the shares have fallen from a high of 352p and yesterday's news of a modest uplift in pre-tax profits to £6 million from £5.5 million in the six months to September left the stock

another 2312p lower at 193p. The company has now lost about a third of its market value since flotation, as it became an unlikely victim of the soaring pound because of heavy dependence on the tourist trade.

But with the shares trading at just 13 times forecast earnings, the drop looks overdone. London tourists the results this time, but the scope for homegrown success

store has proved a success, which bodes well for plans to open in Glasgow. Newcastle or Manchester are next on

In the short term the staff at the flagship Knightsbridge store must grin and bear it as tourists walk out the doors holding nothing else but their cameras — and rely on a blockbuster January sale to relieve the pain.

But still, its restaurants rake in money and with the waiting list reaching six weeks at times the success shows few signs of slowing. There is still much to prove, but the shares have now lost

Parkland

WHAT is happening at Park-land Group? This used to be a boring old Bradford woollen company. But under chief . executive Bryan Lodder it has expansion — building a mas-sive new spinning plant in Nottingham; and yesterday it

emerged that it was involved in a A\$28 million (£11 million) wool-spinning joint venture in Australia.

This spinning venture might be a surprise to shareholders, as the deal was announced in Australia yester-day morning but failed to appear on the Stock Exchange's Company Informstion Service. Also shareholders might wonder how much the Elő million Nottingham project is really costing — as there are rumours, denied by

the company, of it being up to £4 million over budget. There are sugge the City:that it might be Mr Lodder's folly given his obsession with high-technology

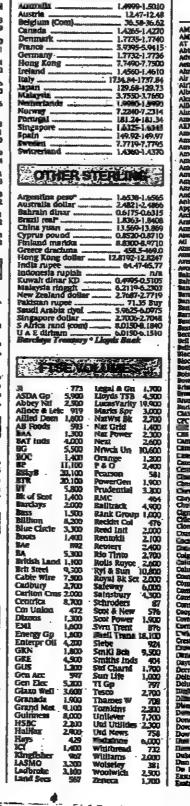
investment being the way to beat low-cost producers from the Far East. However the market is not all that convinced. It has marked down the shares sharply this week, leaving

more than 200p earlier this

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Reviewing a tempestuous year before the storm subsides

Asian turmoil. contains

'long-term' lessons about flexibility

for Brown

coming earlier every year, uniess you happen to own a shop on Britain's surprisingly descried high streets. Hard-pressed re-tailers have been finding out the hard way not to put too much trust in City economic forecasts. The consumer boom amicipated by so many economic commentators has turned out to be neither a bonanza nor, as one of the City's most perminent forecasters predicted exactly a year ago, an inflationary "nightmare" — just a damp squib. My reason for raising this touchy subject is not (yet) to pour scorn on some of my colleagues in the crystal ball

ture timing of this article. Since this is my last Economic View before Christmas it must, as usual, be devoted to reviewing the financial and economic predictions I made in January for 1997. One of the unforeseen advantages of succumbing to ismily pressure and taking an extra week's holiday in December is that this premature review of 1997 can also look forward a bit to the remaining days of the year

a period that could be as momentous as an in living memory for the financial mar-

plain the apparently prema-

Let us begin, then, by seeinghow this month's key events the collapse of Asia and the financial stabilisation package due next week in Japan relate to the forecasts, made here a year ago. Japan, pres sured by events in the rest of Asia as much as by the meltdown in its own financial system, seems finally to be on .. the brink of a gigantic policy U-turn.

A government that had I threatened to destroy the Japanese economy with its pre-Keynesian war against publicborrowing seems finally to be on the point of capitulation. Rymaro Hastimoro, the Prime Minister, is preparing to throw hundreds of billions of dollars of public money at Japan's bank depositors and consumers. Whatever the numbers officially attached to next week's senomerments, the final cost is bound to be much higher and will proba-bly result in a doubling of Japan's net national debt. The result should be a massive stimulus to domestic demand in Japan and, eventually, a rebound by the yen and the Tokyo stock market. For the world as a whole, an economic recovery in Japan could well outweigh the depressing effects of the crisis in the rest of

Asia, as well as making it

much easier for Asian nations

ANNUAL PREDICTIONS SCORECARD ANTERICATE SPOWTH WAS STRONGER THAN PECTED WHITE BRITAIN WAS SLIGHTLY WEAR DOLLAR WAS THE WORLD'S MARK WAS THE WEAKEST (faithiry 2, 1997 = 100) INDIFFERENT LONG-TERM INTEREST RATES DECLINED INSTEAD OF, "SOARING" WALL STREET PEAKED IN JULY.

to help themselves. To what extent were such momenture events anticipated a year ago? The bad news (for any readers rash encegh to follow this column's guidance) is that 1997 was the first year since 1994 in which I did not pour scorn on the fud managers who were pouring money into Hong Kong and other Asian markets. I did return to Asiabashing in late August, when the Hang Seng index was still within 5 per cent of its peak. Nevertheless, the omission of any bearish comments on emerging Asia was certainly a black mark against my January forecast

On Japan, by contrast, jast January's analysis was about right: I said that the Japanese economy was poised for recov-ery, if and only if the Ministry of Finance shandoned its policy of fiscal hara kirl. If the planned fiscal tightening went ahead "the economy would fall back into recession, parts of collapse and the stock market would crash back to its 1995 low" (which it did last morth). If, on the other hand, the bureaucrats relented, the yen would stabilise in the Y120 to Y130 range and the stock market could jump by 20 or 30

My big mistake was in expecting the Japanese to see reason before they were actu-ally struck by disaster. The Japanese have again justified their reputation for inflexibility and narrow-mindedness -ination and long termism beloved by Gordon Brown. But now that reflationary measures do seem to be on the horizon, the markets may finally vindicate last January's unbelpfully paradoxical pre-diction: Tokyo shares are

likely to fall sharply or to rise sharply — or quite possibly to do both.

. On the other main stock markets, the year's forecasts were equally a curate's egg. Taken in isolation, my main prediction that Wall Street (along with London) was in for a year of directionless trading was obviously wrong. A minor mitigation was my insistence that the widely feared crash on Wall Street remained the least likely prospect, since shares were only modestly overval-ued with the Dow Jones industrial average at 6,600. I also added in last January's prediction that a "more dra-

Jeremiahs who predicted a dangerously inflationary boom were

proved wrong

matic" alternative was pos-sible for Wall Street, with another big gain of 20 per cent or so followed, after the summer, by an equally sharp fail. Once it became apparent that the bull market was determined to move higher, I pointed this out in an article on this page on February 18 and stuck firmly to this bullish opinion until finally torning bearish, for the first time since 1994, in mid-July.

Although the savage sell-off on October 21 did seem to justify my conversion to the bearish camp, the bulls have proved far more resilient than I had expected. In fact, al-though the Dow peaked at

8,259 on August 6 and London's FISE 100 index eaked on October 8 at 5,330, the best indicator of conditions on Wall Street, the Standard & Poor's Composite, managedto beat its August record, albeit by a tiny margin, as recently as last Friday (December 5). Happily for the bears, though, stock markets around the world have retreated decisively since then, partly under pressure from events in Korea. With almost three weeks to go before the end of the year, there may be no chance of equity prices returning to anywhere near the level of 6,600 on the Dow at which they

started 1997; but they could

still lose a considerable

amount of their 20 per cent

Turning now to my other main financial predictions, it is easier to make some clear assessments. Continuing a pattern established over the past eight years, the best calls were on currencies while the worst ones were on bonds. On currencies, I correctly predicted that the dollar would strengthen against all-comers. Sterling would run a close second but would have troube breaking above \$1.70, a level which, in fact, the pound has in fact tested without success three times this year. I also said that the world's weakest currency would be the mark, that the yen, would stabilise between Y120 and Y130, and defied conventional wisdom by suggesting that the mark would weaken even against

the "friendless Swiss franc". Sadly, this good luck on currencies was offset by my egregious misjudgment on bonds. Long-term interest rates, instead of "souring", as I expected, have fallen all over the world - and especially in the market I singled out for the biggest jump in yields, Italy. I ability of Italy to maintain a the extraorindary competitive ness of its industry, which allowed the country to tolerate a savage fiscal deflation with only a minor economic down-

turn. I also thought that Germany would fight harder to keep Italy out of EMU. More broadly, I again un-derestimated the strength of global disinflationary forces. Even though I was right about the economic expansions in France all being slightly stronger than consensus forecasts, this growth put no upward pressure on either inflation or interest rates. The question of whether such benign trends can continue I will leave to the

predictions for next year.

Turning finally to Britain. the forecasts were close enough. Britain was the strongest economy in the G7, but the Jeremiahs who predicted a dangerously inflationary consumer boom did prove wrong. Fiscal policy was tightened under Labour; the dividend imputation system was aboiished; and the pound did move back into its old ERM zone (in fact, of course, it went much higher than I dared to imagine). My main error was to suggest that the modest fiscal tightening expected under Labour "would be enough to keep base rates at 7 per cent or below". In fact, of course, the Bank of England has pushed rates up to 7.25 per cent. I do, however, feel more confident than ever that interest rates are unlikely to rise above this level for a long time to come. Further predictions, for what they are worth, should appear in this column on January 9.

Myerson must close unstable door before Liberty horse bolts

t is, once again, a trying time for Liberty's "ordi-A nary shareholders those that cannot claim any connection with Arthur Lasenby Liberty, the department store's founder, and who do not harbour any ambitions to "release shareholder value" by

turfing out the chairman. For whatever the eventual consequences of yesterday's vote to remove Denis Cassidy as chairman, it is bard to see Liberty being able to sustain any degree of corporate stability for long. The make-up of the share register — split between passionate but divided family shareholders, financiers on the make, and weak and uninter-ested institutional holdings -is a recipe for continued squabbling over the future and direction of the business.

The appointment of Brian Myerson and Odile Griffish to the board can only delay the solution of Liberty's biggest problem - how to improve its andmark store on the corner of Regent Street and Great Mariborough Street. Like Staple Inn Hall the London venue for yesterday's extraordinary meeting of shareholders, the present neo-Tudor store is hot, crowded and difficult to move

Mr Myerson and Ms Griffith readily accept the board's argument that "doing nothing is not an option". However, with the possibility of the resignations of Ian Thomson, Liberty's managing director, and Andrew Garety, finance director, along with those of the company's Cuts to be to try to put first task must be to try to put an end to the uncertainty and

Friction between Liberty's hareholders and directors has recome a familiar pattern since Mr Myerson first appeared on Paul Durman

looks at the squabbling over

the future and

direction of the store's business

1991. Mr Myerson, the South African investor who controls a 16.9 per cent stake in Liberty, has led the attack on Mr Cassidy, just as he previously led the attack on the previous management team that included Oliver and Richard Stewart-Liberty. Five years ago, Mr Myerson railed against the "pedestrian" family management. Now the Stewart-Libertys, headed by their step-mother Elizabeth, are his allies

in this latest putsch. The impressions created are that Mr Myerson chooses his friends according to expedience and that the Stewart-Libertys are reluciant to let go of "their" company. As Mr Cassidy and his Liberty colleagues have repeatedly suggested in recent weeks, this does not look like the basis of a stable and continuing relationship.

The family have disowned any intention to resume a management role. But doubts linger. When Mr Myerson forced him off the board two years ago, Oliver Stewart-Liberty is said to have told his supporters: "Don't worry, we'll be back."

. Mr Myerson, reasonably enough, would like to show a profit on an investment, currently worth £13.5 million, that he has had tied up for six years. Few doubt that the family care about Liberty's business in a

way that Mr Myerson would find unimaginable. Whether they know what is needed to return it to prosperity, and whether they are prepared for his solutions, is another matter

To the obvious irritation of some investors. Mr Myerson and Ms Griffith, adviser to Mrs Stewart-Liberty, refused to set out their plans yesterday or ence they might be able to offer Liberty on being appointed to the board. As one said: "It's quite unacceptable that Mr Myerson and Ms Griffith should decline to say what their proposals are for this company or indeed what they know

about retailing." The Myerson/Stewart-Liberty concert party has made some minor criticisms about the lack of progress in Liberty's results since Mr Cassidy took over as chairman in April 1995.

But the main reason for their losing confidence in Mr Cassidy is supposed to be the £43 million cost of redeveloping the Regent Street store. The facts are disputed: Mr Myerson seemed to be quite comfortable with a £40 million redevelopment earlier this

For all Mr Myerson's ac-tivity, Liberty's share price today is little different to what it was when he started buying the shares six

years ago.
The simplest solution, which would also put an end to the warring, would be to accept an offer from one of the interested purchasers recently solicited by Barings, Although Mr Cassidy said several expressions of interest have been received. Mr Myerson and the Stewart-Libertys have said selling the company now would be "wholly inappropriate" and "ill-con-

More savers to face tax than government figures suggest From Mr. W. R. Whittle with several different

Sir, In "Commentary", Decamber 3, you refer to the Government's, now re-

It may be impossible to

people with Peps to the value of more than £50,000 due to individuals having them

May I suggest that next time you refer to the number of mention that this will be much

higher due to National Savquantify the number of ings, friendly society investments and other tax-free investments being included in the limit. I suspect that the

total will be sufficient to the electorally significant. No one seems to have even suspected that National Sav-

separate for tax purposes. W. R. WHITTLE, 23 Haston Crescent,

Kinnoull, Perth.

Airport priorities

From Sir Terence Connan

Sir, I am delighted that Simon Sperryn has highlighted the pressures on the UK's air transport system (letter, December 9). However, if BAA's considerable energy and ex-

pertise were focused on running air terminals rather than shopping centres, the company could clear out its retail tenants. In releasing this space, the overcrowding problems would disappear, but so would most of BAA's profits.

pected to run the nation's air terminals efficiently, or was it privatised to make as much money as possible out of some Yours faithfully. SIR TERENCE CONRAN. This is, of course, the dilem-ma created by this particular

Shad Thames,

privatisation. Was BAA ex-



Above average interest from Midland

TESA	7.75% Tax Free		Follow up TESSA	7.75% Tax Free		
Exchequer	Annual	Interest	Exchequer	Annual	Imerest	
90 Day Notice	Gross %	Net %	30 Day Notice	Gross %	Net 1	
Up to £10,000	6.00	4,60	Up to £5,000	4.25	3.40	
£10,000+	6.20	4.96	25,000+	4.75	3.80	
£25,000+	6.40	5.12	£10,000+	5.00	4.00	
£50,000+	6.50	5.20	\$25,000+	5.50	4.40	
£100,000+	6.70	5.36	£50,000+	6.00	4.80	
£250,000+	6.85	5.48				
2	Monthly	Interest		Monthly	Interest	
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Up to £10,000	5.85	4.66	Up to £5,000	4.17	3.33	
£10,000+	6.04	4.83	£5,000÷	4.65	3.72	
£25,000+	5.22	4.97	£10,000+	4.89	3.91	
£50,000+	6.32	5.05	E25,000+	5.37	4.29	
£100,000+	6.51	5.20	£50,000+	5.85	4.98	
£250,000÷	6.65	5.32				
meridian Savings (Instant Access)	Gross %	Net %	Saver Plus (Instant Access)	Gross %	Net %	
Up to £10,000	4.65	3.72	Up to £5,000	4.21	3.36	
-£10,000+	4.89	3.91	£5,000÷	4.70	3.76	
£25,000+	5.37	4.29	£10,000+	4.94	3.95	
£50,000+	5.85	4.68	£25,000+	5.43	4.34	
•	-		£50.000+	5.92	4.73	

These rates are effective from 5 January 1998

Gross: The rate before the deduction of tax applied to interest on savings.

Net: The rate after the deduction of tax applied to interest on savings.

Tax Free: Tax free means that the interest is free of tax applied to interest on savings.

Midland Bank plc, 27-32 Poultry, London EC2P 2BX.

Derailed

THE Corporation of London should today decide to oppose the Thameslink 2000, the £750 million cross-London project, claiming it will cause huge disruption to City commuters while bringing few benefits to anyone except those keen to travel from Southend to Eastbourne. The Corporation wants a public inquiry, while the public has until the middle of January to make any views known. Reaction promises to be vociferous - a leaflet drop at Moorgate prompted a huge. response from passengers.



Where there's carrot and coriander broth,

All the above is fact. Where we run into difficulty is trying to assess just what the damage public inquiry waves the line through (You didn't think there could be any other outcome, did you?) Over-ground services from Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire into Moorgate will certainly be storped requiring passengers to get into somewhere in Camden.

... The main question is over Blackfriars. Railtrack has the tight to close the station for 95 weeks, or 26 months depending on which document you

trad, the company the company which raise the distinct which raise the distinct why it needs the right in the first place. Blackfriars will close for four weeks — or perhaps less. At other times during construction at the station five per cent of trains will be stopped short at Elephant & Castle perhaps. Oh, und Rantrack promises to keep disruption to a minimun. For what that's worth

A SEASONAL research note reaches me from Drestner Revision Berson. "Peace on Earth and Good-



will to All Men," it starts, before going on to consider the treatment of goodwill and intangible assets. How festive. Except that it is swiftly followed by a retraction. It seems "Peace on Earth . . . " contains an error. "Please disregard the previous version." And a rotten Christmas to you, 100.

Flag down

IF YOU found your trip to and from bunch in the City even more irksome than usual yesterday, I can tell you why. Computer Cab, the centralised booking system used by London cabbies that allows big users to summon cabs electronically, collapsed, and

the big merchant banks with mobile phones to relay orders to headquarters. This was the system that almost came to the stock market earlier this year. Couldn't float it, now they can't even work the thing," was my cabbie's response. French leave

send juvemie runners around

THE future of the Grosvenor House Hotel is made no clear-

er this week by the departure of Peter French, the high-profile general manager. Ever since the Exclusive hotel was officially taken off the market earlier this year, Granada has been working behind the scenes to persuade would be buyers to hand over some £350 million, Latest indications are of a two-horse race between the Emir of Qatar and a Hong Kong-listed conglomerate. A Forte mole assures me

French's exit has no implications for the sale. Nothing has changed. If somebody came up with a firm offer at the right price, we'd consider it, but Peter's departure has no hidden message.".

Bolly-wood

WAR has broken out between the LVMH and Bollinger. champagne dynastics over, of its operators were forced to all things, the new James

Bond film. Tomorrow Never Dies opens in the UK today and it seems the film and its moronic predecessors feature huge puffs for Bollinger. Pree, unusually in these days of product placement deals. Now LVMH, which makes Verve Clicquot among others, is of-fering to pay for use of its champagne in future films. No champagne, it seems. Ghislain de Montgotfier, who now runs the house of Bollinger, com-ments: "We are great and old friends of the producers of the Bond films, and particularly the late Cubby Broccoli. There's never been any ques-tion of Bollinger paying."

MARTIN WALLER



Tomorrow never dies

Adaptec and Eutelstat head for satellite/PC link

ADAPTEC, the California communications technolgy company, yesterday signed an agreement with Eutelsat, the European satellite org-anisation, which will bring closer the day when vast quantities of data are broadcast directly to PCs.

Eutelsat has ordered the first batch of Satellite Express PC receiver cards. broadsheet newspaper to be "squirt-ed" down to a PC in a few seconds. The cards, which are likely to cost less than \$300 (£180), are expected to be available from November.

Eutelsat explained that it was already delivering information digitally by satellite for clients such as the Paris bourse, and said the new cards were the first to be fully compatible with the international standard on

which will enable the full text of a digital data broadcasting. Adapted broadsheet newspaper to be "squirt- expects data satellite broadcasting to begin to take off in 1998 although business, rather than residential use,

is likely to come first. Digital data broadcasting. Adaptec believes, can offer enormous savings over other forms of data delivery. Adaptec says that to send the amount of information on a CD-Rom to 10,000 people would take two days and cost \$27 million. The same

cated business lines would still inst

To reach 10,000 users by satellite. the company claims, would involve a marginal cost of E25.

Eutelsat is ordering the first batches of the receiver cards from Adaptec to get the market going but then expects increasing competition to develop to force the price down.

Adaptec hopes that business users

users such as supermarket groups which need to update prices nation-

wide every day.
Individual PC users can leave the system on all the time without incurring telephone charges and have the top 80 or so Internet sites regularly broadcast to them. They can then call up the information delivered to the computer memory in

Takeover price

The most likely bidders are said to be Chase Manhattan

Dresdmer.

DLJ is worth about. £3 billion. It recently expanded Bishopsgate together with Phoenix, the mergers and acquisitions boutique it owns. DLJ shares soared 25 per cent

speculation spurs DLJ

DONALDSON, LUFKIN & JENRETTE, the eighth largest US investment bank, has become the focus of persistent takeover talk that has boosted its share price by more than 10 per cent this week.

Bank and Dresdner Kleinwort filigence on DLJ.

its London operations and moved into new offices at 99 during the last two weeks.

But whether DLJ wants to sell remains unclear. Equitable, the insurance group that owns 73 per cent of DLJ, declined to comment. Joseph Malone, the Equitable president, recently said he wanted to keep DLJ because it had become a "core business". insurance companies are in-creasingly offering a full range

FROM OLIVER AUGUST

Benson. Chase Manhattan, the leading US commercial bank with an expanding investment banking arm, is believed to be conducting due

Dresdner is also said to be in the advanced stages of takeover negotiations. USA Today reported yesterday that Hansgeorg Holmann, Dresd-ner's head of investment banking, has held talks with John Chaisty, DLJ's executive chairman. At the meeting Mr Chalsty is said to have em-braced the idea of an alliance with Kleinwort Benson, the UK house acquired by

Siemens predicts 15% rise in profits

SIEMENS, the German engineering company, yesterday forecast that its net profits will rise by 15 per cent in the year to next September, to exceed DM3 billion (£1.02 billion). The company, which employs 386,000 people, said that sales and the value of orders taken would rise by up to 6 per cent. Siemens expects the value of orders taken to amount to between DMII0 billion and DMII5 billion.

The company said that the recovery of the German economy "has been marked since the end of the 1996-97 year and was boosting the industrial and computer divisions. However, as had been the case in the current year, the main force would come from abroad, particularly the Asia-Pacific zone. Heinrich von Pierer, the company's president, said that local devaluations would enable Siemens to improve its competitive position, particularly in component factories in Malaysia and Singapore, In 1996-97 Siemens had disposed of assets worth nearly DMS.5 billion: the main sales had been in the sectors of military electronics

Arlen bids for Plasmec

ARLEN has launched an agreed £11.01 million takeover bid for Plasmec, a fellow manufacturer of electronic components. for Plasmec, a fellow manufacturer of electronic components. Arlen is offering 230p in cash for each Plasmec share, against Wednesday's closing price of 185p, with a loan note alternative. Last month Plasmec told shareholders that 1997 profits would fall short of expectations, blaming intense competition in its markets, compounded by the strength of the pound. In 1996 the company earned pre-tax profits of £129 million on sales of £14.76 million.

Morgan acquisitions

MORGAN CRUCIBLE, the engineer, has made four acquisitions. W Haldenwanger Technische Keramik, a maker of ceramic and porcelain products based in Germany, is being bought for up to £22.1 million. Morris Compressor of Texas, a supplier of piston rings, is being bought for £4.4 million. Zambelli, an Italian distributor of Morgan's thermal ceramics products, is being bought for £2.5 million. A £3 million majority stake in Carbo San Luis, of Argentina. provides a new distribution outlet for these products.

Citibank agreement

CITIBANK has agreed to buy the Global Trust and Agency Services business of JP Morgan, the US investment bank, for an undisclosed sum. The deal will bring a portfolio of 12,000 European issues and an additional 500 clients to Citibank. allowing the bank to claim a 28 per cent share of the European debt market. Together with Citibank's own 1.000strong client list, the acquisition, which needs regulatory approval, will propel the bank into the leading position in the global custody market, Citibank said.

SHL betters forecast

SHARES in SHL, the psychometric testing group, rose from 2574p to 2654p after it revealed a rise in pre-tax profits of 17 per cent to F9.1 million in the year to September 30. The figure tops the £9 million forecast at the time of flotation in October. Sales rose 31 per cent to £41.9 million and earnings rose 9 per cent to 13.14p. A one-off exceptional charge of £11.3 million covers the cost of issuing shares to employees from January 1994 to September 1997. The first dividend to be paid after flotation is to be the interim in the current financial year.

Increase for Galen

GALEN HOLDINGS, the pharmaceutical group, increased pre-tax profits by 58 per cent to £11.4 million in the year to September 30, on sales up 26 per cent to £39.3 million. Earnings rose from 5.3p to 8p, out of which a final dividend of 0.37p will be paid. The company estimates that it would have paid a 1.1p final had it been listed for the full financial year. Allen McClay, the chairman, said that he was confident that 1997-98 will be another good year for the company. The

Alvis slips into reverse

ALVIS, the manufacturer of military vehicles, said yesterday that its current order book was worth more than £500 million after the £84 million acquisition of Hägglunds Vehicle, the Scandinavian company, earlier this year. Alvis was reporting a fall in pre-tax profits to £8.1 million from £8.9 million in the year to September 30 on turnover of £72.9 million (£90.4) million). Earnings fell to 7.8p per share from 10.1p. But the total dividend is increased to 3.5p a share from 3p, with a 2.25p (2p) final that is payable on February 27.

Forth in Finnish move

FORTH PORTS has reached agreement with three Finnish companies to develop and operate a dedicated Finnish terminal at the London port of Tilbury. Facilities will cost about £20 million and are designed to handle more than about 220 million and are designed to nation there man 650,000 tonnes of paper products and general cargo a year. The agreement has been reached with UPM-Kymmene, Metsa-Seria and Myllykoski Papery. Construction will start early in the new year and will take 12 months to complete, Forth Ports said.

Countryside recovers

PRE-TAX profit at Countryside Properties, the residential group, recovered to £9.3 million from £3.1 million in the year to September 30, though profits are still short of the £10.6 million earned in 1995. Turnover rose to a record £196 million (£160 million). During the year the company, which operates in the South East, sold 843 new homes at an average price of £126.000 (£129,000), and completed 775 new homes for housing associations. Earnings rose to 10.6p (3.4p) a share.

Shares rise at Triplex as talks are confirmed By GEORGE SIVELL "After careful consideration of SHARES in Triplex Lloyd, the the company's position and West Midlands engineer, rose from 220 ap to 263 ap yesterprospects the board concluded day after the company admittthat such discussions were unlikely to lead to an offer ed that it was in takeover talks. Triplex said the approach capable of being recommended to shareholders valued it at about 280p a share. and discussions have effectiveor £186 million. The company ly terminated." said it had signed a confidenti-This statement convinced ality agreement with the potenthe City that the company was tial bidder and would not be in play as a takeover target giving any further details. This week Triplex had deand that in time a hostile bidder would emerge. This rime round Triplex advisers believe that 280p a nied it was in takeover talks with Doncasters, the Midlands engineer, or indeed anyone. share is a price that is at least worth talking about although Even before yesterday's surge the shares were standing they emphasise that they are

Looking ahead: Michael Jeffries, left, chief executive of WS Atkins, the consultancy and support services company, and Aian Rudge, chairman, said the level of work secured in the first half of the year exceeded targets and that

The company was reporting a rise in pre-tax profit to £12.7 million (£10.7 million) in the six months to September 30. Earnings increased to 8.4p per share from 7p and the interim dividend is lifted to 2.7p from 2.25p. The shares

at a five-year high despite a

mixed history this year which

has seen the departure of the chief executive after an appar-

ent boardroom disagreement

and the failure of the £75 million bid for William Cook, the

Failure to win the bid for

William Cook, which is based

in Sheffield, cost Triplex E2.1

million. Triplex was trumped

during the bid battle by a Cook

management offer of £79 mill-

ion, an amount that proved too

Graham Lockyer announced

his departure as chief executive

in July after what were describ-

ed as differences of opinion

In October Triplex declared

that it had ended discussions with a potential bidder, saying:

much for Triplex to top.

about strategic direction.

rival castings group.

only talking.

Analysts believe, however,

that Triplex is vulnerable to a

bid. The group is yet to ann-

ounce a new chief executive

and Bob Mitchell, finance dir-

ector, has filled the post since

July. At the half-year results presentation last month Trip-lex promised a new appoint-

On strategy Triplex merely said it was 3 per cent geared and looking for "bolt-on" ac-quisitions of about £20 million

in its second half. The compa-

ny dismissed criticisms that it

Pre-tax profit rose from

£6.25 million to £7.6 million in

the six months to September 30. Analysts expect £17 million

before tax for the full year.

lacked strategic direction.

ment within two months.

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his week The Times has teamed up with Vodasone to offer readers an I unbeatable, no strings attached, mobile phone in time for Christmas. It consists of an award-winning Telital phone, pre-loaded with 30 days' service and up to two-and-a-half hours of off-peak calls, plus a free voucher worth £15 - a total of 60 days' service and up to five hours of free calls. You also receive a battery giving 90 minutes' talktime and 18 hours' standby plus a desktop battery charger - all for 199.99 inc Vat. That is a special saving to Times readers of ${\it E15}$. The offer makes an ideal gift — there is no age restriction. no written contract, no credit checks, no monthly bills. You stay in control and just Pay As You Talk.

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CHANGING TIMES

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Daily Mail 68% up as newsprint cost declines

BY OUR MEDIA EDITOR

RISING advertising revenue and the falling price of newsprint underpinned a 68 per cent rise in pre-tax profits, to £143.7 million, for Daily Mail & General Trust in the year to

Analysts suggested yester-day that building society windfalls may also have contributed to a particularly strong second half for the national titles, the Daily Mail

and The Mail on Sunday. DMGT said that the new financial year had started well, with advertising revenue remaining strong in the UK and the prospect of a stable newsprint price for the year. "Much will depend on the wellbeing of the UK economy and especially of recruitment advertising, which, while currently buoyant, has been known to turn down very quickly." DMGT said. Another factor will be the performance of acquisitions

made over the past two years. DMGT said that all its divisions had improved profits substantially over the past year, with operating profit overall rising by 82 per cent, to

£159.6 million, on turnover up by 19 per cent, to £1.2 billion. With some analysts having ggested figures as low as £120 million pre-tax profits for this year, the DMGT share price rose yesterday, the ordinary shares going up 92½p to £19.67½ and the "A" stock climbing 672p to £18.75.

Advertising at Associated Newspapers was up by 12 per cent overall with the average price of newsprint 18 per cent lower. Northcliffe Newspapers, the DMGT regional division, produced a record trading profit with eight of its daily titles and all of its weekly titles showing circulation rises in the January-to-June period. DMGT noted that all three

divisions of Harmsworth Media — business media, broadcasting and publishing — had expanded through acquisition. In broadcasting, the Adelaide speech station, SAA, remained in loss. However, in the UK the acquisition of a further 30 per cent of Teletext, the commercial teletext service. taking DMGT's stake to 75 per cent had "transformed" the trading profits of the division.

Licensing group nets soccer deal

By Jason Nisse

COPYRIGHT Promotions, which has a portfolio of characters that includes the Pink Panther. Mr Men and Dennis the Menace, has signed a deal to license prodocts for the next European

Championships in 2000. The move follows the investment in Copyright by ISL, the Swiss international sports marketing group. It took a 22.5 per cent holding earlier this year and plans to increase this to 29.7 per cent.

The company also said that Richard Dunn, the former chief executive of Thames Television, is to become nonexecutive chairman, replacing

David Williams, the financier who demerged the group from Mosaic Investments.

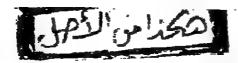
The group made only E62.000 in profit in the six months to October 31 on turnover of £9.1 million. This was an improvement on the performance for the smae period last year when it lost £86,000. The group was held back by a disappointing half in the creative design

A loss per share of 0.85p was turned into earnings of 0.61p. However, the company has passed on the intrerim dividend, having paid 0.5p at the halfway stage last year.



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t's the chippy British, not the big-hearted Americans, who are supposed to snipe at highachievers and snigger at ostentanous displays of do-gooding. So what do we find in Los Angeles? Nothing less than a tide of resentment brought about by the most lavish act of cultural patronage in history. Which only goes to prove that, when it comes to the art world biting the hand that feeds, national

barriers count for nothing. But I get ahead of myself. First you must gawp at the stats. Next Tuesday the J.Paul Getty Centre opens for the first time, on a hilltop high above the San Diego Free-way. The product of a £700-million building project, it is the costliest art gallery on Earth. Amazed punters will stroll through 10,000 newly planted trees in 110 acres of gardens, commanding the loveliest views in California, before entering magnificent halls cloaked in purest marble - 30,000 tons of the shiny stuff, to be exact, shipped at vast expense from Italy. Inside these pavilions, designed

The Getty finds money can't buy love

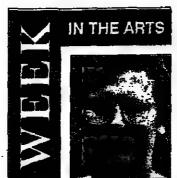
gasp at the finest art that an annual acquisitions budget of £150 million has been able to assemble in 15 years of raids on the world's auction rooms. All this will be offered to the public without a dime of public money having been spent. Who could possibly carp at such an epic philanthropic effort?

Well, where shall we start? It's true that the Getty has inspired much gee-whizz journalism. But many critics have also questioned its look, location, purpose and extravagance. "Obscenely grandiose," declared the showbiz trade paper Variety. That's rich, coming from a journal that reports almost daily on Hollywood movies costing £100 million or more - but it was a typical reaction.

Some American papers found this mountain-top fortress overbearing": too aloof and inaccessible - physically and spiritually by Richard Meier, visitors will from troubled Los Angeles and its cultural needs. It should have been in a nitty-gritty downtown location, said the Los Angeles Times. Other critics simply declared the whole notion of plonking a great temple of art into a metropolis dedicated to the production and consumption of low-brow showbiz to be absurd. "How will all this high culture affect the lifeguards on Baywatch?" quipped The New

York Times. That paper even managed to be snide about the tram that carries visitors up the hillside to the museum. "How shocking it is to be riding in Los Angeles in a vehicle that almost resembles public transportation," it chorded.

Of course, much of this resentment stems not from the new building, but from the Getty Trust's activities over 15 years. With £3 billion of the oil mogul's legacy in its kitty, it has been a hugely destabilising player in the



RICHARD MORRISON

art market, inflating prices beyond the reach of even the plushest of national galleries. Every time a Three Graces scenario is played out somewhere - gallant "little" publicly-funded galleries battling snapped up by the marauding giant brandishing the universe's biggest chequebook - the resent-

Now this gleaming new citadel appears like a taunt. "We've snaf-fled all the best art," it seems to declare, "and we have locked it into this impregnable stronghold. and although you can come and drool at it, you are never going to

get it back again." It doesn't really help, either, when the Getty trustees hint that, since the new museum is already full, they won't be buying so prodigiously in the future, but instead funding massive art-educational programmes. The damage has already been done. One of the most fascinating art books of recent years — Carol Duncan's Civilising Rituals: Inside Public Art Museums — argues that private patronage, although ostensibly about enhancing public ap-

opposite effect: the ordinary visitor feels like a voyeur, allowed one peep inside a world of wealth and privilege that will never be his. One can imagine that a visit to the Getty could inspire this sort of negative reaction.

That's more, the Getty opens just a few weeks after the astounding new Guggenheim in Bilbao. Private art collections seem to be making all the waves at a time when public museums are struggling just to tread water. Well, good luck to them: at least someone has money to lavish on art. But when you read one American writer crowing that the new Getty "makes the Louvre look Third World", you do feel slightly queasy. The line between justifiable pride and Uncle Sam cultural imperialism is very thin. The main reason why the new

Getty seems shocking, though, is that its castle-like grandeur, high above common humanity, seems literally to place art on a pedestal. This is nothing short of a cathedral, in which Old Masters are not to be enjoyed or studied, but venerated in high-Victorian style. Today, the trend is decidedly towards making art as accessible and "user friendly" as possible. The new Getty seems to turn the

clock back a century.

But perhaps that is exactly what high culture needs, if it is to make an impact in a place like Los Angeles. "This is an edifice with which Hollywood can identify." declares Peter Bart, the veteran movie-industry commentator. Well, if that's true, uncork the bubbly! That which inspires, ex-cites, frightens or angers Hollywood today becomes the global mass-entertainment of tomorrow. If the new Getty can get Tinseltown enthused about high art, who knows what uplifting effects it may have on cinema and television screens across five

Dark view of an avaricious little world

t is not exactly the Venice of the brochures. Night log or sea-mist wells up through the stage boards and half-shrouds the wet black brick that looms above, as if setting the scene for a guest appearance by Jack the Ripper. Merchants and ladies of the night, wearing costumes that suggest both the Renaissance and a garish 17th century, mill around what weirdly appear to be wardrobes or coffins covered with funereal

These eventually turn out to conceal nothing more deathly than stuffed peacocks, a Chinese vase, and the rest of the bric-a-brac Portia keeps in her house. But the point is made. Robert Jones has designed a Venice where you are unlikely to find either Christian callousness or Jewish vindictiveness rendered sympathetic a Venice where young men casually spit on the venerable lock is so far gone in haired that, even after Portia has bettered him in court, he seriously considers plunging his knife into Antonio's chest.

Shylock is Philip Voss, who recently made a terrific impact in the RSC's Twelfth Night with a grim, loveless Malvolio. Here he has still greater weight, along with a surprising variety. He mocks and withly teases Julian Curry's Antonio, an uptight chap who fastidiously wipes his lingers after they have been shaken by his (Shylock's) hands. But even before he loses Jessica - here. glimpsed by him as she disappears into a mob of revellers provocatively sporting pigs' heads - Voss never lets you overlook something fell and implacable behind his hooded

eves and creased jowls. For a moment he cuts a pathetic figure, standing in his tattered gaberdine and, with scratches on his face that he may or may not have made himself, rasping out sobs from deep in his stomach. But he THEATRE

The Morelegist of Vontee RST, Stratford

makes an unusual and interesting recovery. Not until the second time that he delivers the warning to Antonio, "let him look to his bond", does he realise what this might mean, and not until the third time does a plan begin to form in his mind. And so to a fierce, hoarse scene in the Doge's court that leaves a prostrate Shylock scrambling helplessly about in the gold coins Bassanio has offered him, a victim of Christian avarice and his own furv.

This performance is so strong that it overshadows the rest of Gregory Doran's pro-

duction, though this is never less than decent and, indeed. refreshing in its refusal to tilt the human evidence in any spurious, un-Shakespearean direction. Helen Schlesinger's Portia is warm and generous, not least when she puts the

case for mercy. Scott Handy's Bassanio is an affable young man, without the cynicism or the secret homosexual life some productions attribute to him, and, if John Dougall's Gratiano comes across as a boor and anti-Semitic loudmouth well, look at what he says in the text, and you will see the justification. But shouldn't Curry put on weight? You could as easily get a nice steak from one of Pharoah's lean kine as cut a pound from this

BENEDICT



NIGHTINGALE The Duke of Venice (Sandy Macnab) looks on as Philip Voss's superb Shylock prepares to extract his pound of flesh from Antonio (Julian Curry)

Sentenced to hard labour

THE misadventures of Mr Aeneas Posket, hitherto a blameless servant of the law, become fitfully funny in this lumpy production up from Chichester, but many stretches of it are dead on the stage. The playing of the women is especially trying: all are awful some of the time and some are

awful most of the time. Nor has Nicholas Broadhurst's direction properly thought out the transfer to the Savoy stage. For instance, the anguished admission of culpability eventually torn from lan Richardson's Posket is accompanied by his slide down the shelves of a bookcase, yet the extent of this is impossible to see through the

dutter of furniture. Dwarfing the human characters in the Posket drawingroom is a great marble statue of the man bearing his name on the plinth above the words Magistrate Philanthropist. The Magistrate Savoy

Such grandiloquence is so contrary to the way this correct, considerate, dutiful man actually regards himself that it brings Broadhurst's understanding of Pinero's farce into serious question.

The ultimate cause of Posket's ordeal is his new wile's decision to subtract five years from her age. Cis, her son by a previous marriage, therefore supposes himself to be a boy of 14 when all his sparkish instincts are those of a young man pushing vigor-It is Cls who takes his

stepfather to the dubious hotel and helps him to run off when the police raid the premises. Dishevelled and scarcely able to control his shaking limbs, Posket arrives to discover that his wife was also at the hotel and is in the dock in front of him. John Padden's marvel

lously gawky Cis enlivens the

play. The two halves of his body pull him in different directions, as impulse and restraint fight a battle inside him. Even his voice is gawky. Richardson's chiselled profile is a perfect image of Victorian rectitude but his performance, though enjoy-able and physically brisk, does not convince as an actor for farce. A comic actor, yes, adding extra syllables to simple words like pai-in that make them both funny and truthful. But his interpretation lacks that crucial sense that a little part of Posket is excited by the prospect of a night out and that being

naughty might be fun. JEREMY KINGSTON



"BRILLIANT ... DEFINITELY NOT TO BE MISSED" "A DOWNRIGHT MASTERPIECE" "QUIETLY EXPLOSIVE... WELL WORTH SEEING" "SHARPLY FUNNY" . 1 (1 NOW SHOWING W SWISS CENTRE AND AT SELECTED CINEMAS NATIONWIDE

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Now you see him, now you won't

He's sold 13 million records, but he walks down the street unnoticed.

Alan Jackson meets Robert Miles

ust when you have be-come convinced that the world is full of people desperate for their 15 minutes of fame, you meet someone like Robert Miles and all seems sane and ordered again. Not that there are many people like him in the pop world. Anyone else who had sold 4.5 million copies of a debut single (1996's ubiquitous dance instrumental. Children) would have made sure that their biographical details, not to mention their facial features, were inscribed upon the collective consciousness as firmly and indelibly as a tattoo. But not this 29-year-old Italian. At around the time we meet, in a Notting Hill café, his silhouette is making its debut on Top of the Pops. I just don't feel comfortable with this pop star identity, this concentration on image," he shudders. "The music is enough. I let it

You must imagine that you hear these words spoken in an Italian accent so thick that you could spread it on your ciabatta. Meanwhile, that his name is so resoundingly Anglo-sounding is a further deliberate evasion: Miles was born Roberto Concina and spent his early years in Switzerland, where his parents hoped to make a better living as immigrant workers. When he was ten, they returned home to the industrial suburbs of Venice — a city forever associated in British minds with water-lapped heritage, Visconti and Don't Look Now, but which presented a different face to the young music fan

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Destiny Of The Doctors

southern Italy is a national centre for house, so the Venetian area is a centre for the underground techno scene, he explains. "When I started DJ-ing at the age of 14, it was natural for it to be that which I played."

His operational (and, perhaps, aspirational) monicker in the clubs and on radio was Roberto Milano, Years later, when launching his production and recording career, he opted for a further change, retaining only the first three letters of that assumed surname, and adding an e and an s to form "the more interna-tional-sounding" Miles. And he moved to London, "for no other reason than it's the best place in the world to be if you want to lay yourself open to all kinds of new music: drum and bass, trip-hop, big beat, whatever. People here are very open-minded, which is why you can find bands 'ke the Prodigy or Chemical Lathers in the charts. If I weren't based here, I would at least have to visit very frequently."

The particular skill Miles demonstrated not just with Children (recently judged the most frequently broadcast track on American TV and radio in 1996) but also with its parent album Dreamland was that of being able to lace such relatively cutting-edge stylings with a more conventional and accessible musicality. For this, he has been written off as a Jean-Michel Jarre of the dance scene by some purists, doubtless greeneyed at the fact that his combined singles-and-album sales now stand at 13 million worldwide. Miles is un-



Robert Miles, the million-selling artist hereafter known as silhouette: "Perhaps I'm in the wrong business, but I'm very much anti-fame"

abashed: "I think it's wonderful that people twice my age liked Children enough to buy it. And that I have proved dance music doesn't have to be linked to a lifestyle or to

He also proved with it that a small budget and low-tech equipment are no barriers to success. "Children cost me about £150 to make. I spent

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RIVEN

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what little money I had in the bank on setting up a small studio - just one sample, one keyboard and one small desk and mixed it on those machines. I don't think you necessarily have to spend a lot of money to get a good result. The basic idea behind it all is the important thing."

Dreamland's successor 23AM (a time once announced

CHAMPIONSHIP

MONKEY ISLAND

by Miles's malfunctioning ansaphone) is newly-released by the label Deconstruction, and sounds rather more expensive. "It was made in the same studio, but I've got some more machines now," he smiles shyly. You have to stay up to date if you want to be on a par with other producers every day there's a new machine with a new sound. The

album represent a step forward, but sounds like me." He is right. Yes, there are vocal

contributions from Nancy singer Danino and America's Kathy Sledge, former leader of the family group Sister Sledge. And yes, guitars, brass

and strings provide additional coloration, but at its heart is the ambient house/slowtrance instrumental dance sound that is Miles's musical trademark.

Not all critics have been convinced by the evolution:
"As Enya well knows, there is a massive market for Radox-

style musical reflection," remarked Q magazine of the project's New Age tendencies. But they would have to agree that, once again, Miles has been clever enough to play the pop game his way, making sure that, while we all recognise his musical sound, he can still walk down any street un-

6 It's

twice my

age liked

Children ?

"I tried a few times to be the proper star with Children but, to be honest, 1 just didn't leel comfortable wonderful being on Top of the Pops with a that people camera pointing at "That's why we've come up with the idea of using my

silhouette on the

CD sleeve and pro-

iected onto screen among other visuals for television promotion; it's me, but not too much of me. Perhaps I'm in the wrong business, but I'm very much anti-fame. I don't disrespect my fans; I reply personally to each letter I receive and enjoy the interaction. But in

watching friends who have

been successful. I've seen how

fame can take you to a different dimension. I prefer to stay feet-on-the-ground, with a normal flat, normal clothes. riding the Tube instead of driving some big car. To my mind Robert Miles doesn't exist as a pop star. He's just a composer. DJ and producer." In his native Italy, birth-

place of the paparazzi, such an attitude is seen as inexplicable. He grimaces: "They want you to parade your success and your wealth, invite all the magazines into your home, lay yourself open to kidnapping. Because I won't do that, they make up stupid things — that I I like very much, or that I am wooing Björk with roses every day, or that I have had an enormous swimming pool built in my flat. None of it is true. You British think your tabloid press is bad, but ..."

Miles has stopped talking to ask for the bill which - again, a pop star rarity - he insists on paying. Outside on the crowded streets, he attracts no more attention than might any other tall, fashionably dressed slightly exotic-looking young man. It's what is called, in some circles, a result.

Ennui for the money

UNLIKE most of the acts who are big enough to play Wembley, Sheryl Crow brought with her no lavish stage sets. no fancy costume changes, no gimmicks and no theatricals. She is a performer who believes that the music is the message - all she needs to do, to paraphrase the hook of her best-known song, is to have

some fun. And we did. Crow was in potent voice and she led a musicianly show by example. playing three different guitars within the first 15 minutes, switching to keyboard, blowing some harmonica and then finally strapping on an accordion. The band, which she introduced somewhat unimaginatively as "the Spice Boys", was in blistering form. Jeff Trott played some out-

LIVE GIG Sheryl Crow Wembley Arena

standing slide guitar, particularly on Home, the rhythm section of Tim Smith and Jim Burgess kicked with venom and Todd Wolf's second guitar also rocked powerfully.

The best songs, such as Leaving Las Vegas, Everyday is a Winding Road, A Change Would Do You Good and Run Baby Run were given muscular workouts and you realised just how many classic radio-triendly hits Crow has already penned in a career that is still only two albums old.

It was only when she sang her anthem, All I Wanna Do, that the odd doubt crept in. Given a harder edge than the recorded version, the song strangely lacked charm and one began to wonder whether Crow was having quite as much fun as we were.

Her communication with the audience was minimal and her patter was perfunctory. We had the usual "I love London" platitudes and then. for no reason in particular, she told us she felt "like getting into trouble". In truth it was all far too controlled for there ever to be much chance of that.

Two weeks ago, Crow spoke of her loneliness and her desire to experiment with something different, "more committed, more aggressive". it was hard to fault her Wembley performance for its professionalism, yet the feeling that she is growing restless with the current show was

inescapable. The sense of ennui (hers, not ours) was only really banished when she donned the accor-Strong Enough and a spright-ly version of the old Who song, Šaueeze Box.

She returned once more for the melodramatic theme song she wrote for the new Bond movie, Tomorrow Never Dies, transformed from rock chick into sophisticated vamp by throwing a long coat with a huge fur collar over her regulation leather pants. At last she looked as if she really was having some fun.

> NIGEL WILLIAMSON

BLUES ALBUMS

Such a shame

ne of the classic scenes of the film Baby Doll features a lusting Eli Wallach chasing a scantilyclad Carroll Baker while New Orleans blues shouter Smiley Lewis belts out the song Shame, Shame, Shame on the soundtrack. The track, with its irresistible Shame on you, Miss Roxie chorus is the opening number on a double CD set called Stompers (EMI 59336 2), which successfully mixes classic Forties and Fifties tracks such as Let The Good Times Roll by Shirley and Lee and Safronia B by Calvin Boze with more contemporary rockers by Dr Feelgood and Canned Heat.

A star whose career flour-ished in those early postwar years before his death in a car crash in 1951 is pianist and vocalist Cecil Gant. His eponymous album (Flyright FLY-CD61) reveals that the socalled "GI Sing-Sation" could switch from being a blues crooner on his big hit I Wonder, to being a prototype rock n roller on numbers such

as Killer Diller Boogle. A decade later, everyone was trying to emulate the sounds coming from the Motown studios. When trends changed, the tracks were quietly shelved, only to be rediscovered by British fans eager for these highly danceable numbers. The fact that the biggest demand came from clubs in places like Wigan and Bolton led to the music being dubbed Northern Soul - a fair chunk of which can be heard on Rare, Collectable and Soulful Vol 2 (Kent CDKENDI56). Lorraine Chandler, Willie Kendrick and Sharon Scott provide some of the gems from the RCA vaults.

Quality soul can also be found, perhaps surprisingly, on a CD devoted to Little Eva, the singer best known for her 1962 hit The Locomotion. LLLL-Little Eva (Westside WESM-512) includes The Trouble With Boys, Takin Back What I Said and the very politicallyuncorrect Please Hurt Me.

JOHN CLARKE

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1234567890	(2) (1) (3) (4) (6) (5) (1) (8) (7) (9)	Let's Talk About Love Spiceworld	Celine Dion (Epic Spice Girls (Virgin Verve (Hut Wham! (Epic Backstreet Boys (Jive Eternal (EMi Texas (Mercury All Saints (London Lightning Seeds (Epic

JAZZ ALBUMS

Exotically tasty

RABIH ABOU-KHALIL Odd Times (Enja ENJ-9330 2)

THE Lebanon-born Rabih Abou-Khalil, master of the oud, a stringed, lute-like instrument, now lives in Munich, and this album (his ninth for Enja) features his working band - harmonica player Howard Levy, serpent/tuba player Michel Godard, drummer Mark Nauseel and frame drum player Nabil Khaiat -

recorded live in Cologne.

There is clearly great novelty value in the extraordinary textures and timbres resulting from the combination, in particular, of oud and harmonica (the latter itself drawing on many apparently disparate traditions, chiefly blues and country music), but surprise at this soon gives way to admiration for the band's infectious enthusiasm for straightforward blowing.

Whether they are scurrying through Abou-Khalil's bustling up-tempo themes or wringing every drop of emotion from his achingly slow laments, they manage to make the quintet's unique instrumentation sound entirely natural, and the standard of the soloing - even on the seldomheard serpent and the neglected tuba - is first-class.

BILLY BANG

Bang On! (Justin Time JUST 105-2) VIOLINIST Billy Bang really needs to be seen live for the visceral impact of his music to

studio album, also featuring

pianist D.D. Jackson, drum-

mer Ronnie Burrage and bass-

ist Akira Ando, is the next best thing.
The rapport between Bang and Jackson, both no-holdsbarred soloists as interested in textural variety and harmonic adventurousness as in straightforward swing, is the album's most immediately arresting strength, and they strike sparks off each other on the vigorous Bang originals that make up the bulk of the album. On the odd ballad, too, and on the occasional stan-dard - both Sweet Georgia Brown and Yesterdays receive feisty airings — Bang main-tains a full head of steam.

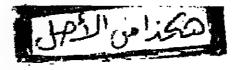
CHRIS PARKER

confirming his reputation as

his instrument's most individ-

ual current practitioner in





The biggest Christmas on record

rs not that I'm stupid, heaven forfend — I once improvised a much needed turret-shaped cake tin by using a dogfood can. Admittedly the whole family had food poisoning for a week afterwards, but it looked incredibly impressive on the day. Ample proof, I think, that I'm not short on brain-skill. Even so, it really hadn't occurred to me until last week that music critics' end-of-year Best Of round-up palavers weren't merely hacks showing off their great taste or plugging great showbiz mates, but are supposed to be a guide to which albums people should buy

for Christmas presents. Bearing this in mind, I've decided to approach my Best Of thingy from a scientific slant. I mean, the Radiohead album wouldn't make a suitable under-tree garnish for the Head of Personnel or Uncle Sebas-

tian. So, using the high-tech wizardry of half an hour on my hands and some whimsy, I will be matching the albums of 1997 to their ideal recipients.

First, there's that foppish teenager who rather fancies himself as the next Oscar Wilde, and doesn't see the difference between an elegant smoking jacket and a towelling robe that makes him look like a member of staff at a leisure centre. He'd love A Short Album About Love by The Divine Comedy (Setanta), an epic orchestral swoon.

The divorcing couple, who hiss at each other like two snakes knotted together in a washing basket, will find solace in Homogenic (One Little Indian) by Björk (for her it's all about how men are truculent weasels) and Dig Your Own Hole (Heavenly) by the Chemical Broth-

Caitlin Moran picks her albums of the year to give to family, friends and, not to put too fine a point on it, enemies for all time

trying to impress some young teenage girl with how hip he is, and will need a crash course in the Big Beat mardi gras).

Jolly uncles called Ned or Steve are always difficult: does one go for the hanky and golfball kit, or the tankard with "Beer is Here" written on it? There is a third route: In it for the Money by Supergrass (Parlophone). It's so full of brio that Uncle Steve will be going hell for leather on his rowing machine while he listens to it, and crammed with guitar licks he can play along to on a tennis racket. Hopefully he will be so delighted that he'll completely forget to tell you about his mechanic mate Chris who bled

his brakes for a fiver, diamond bloke, used to play darts professionally "on the circuit" . . .

rs Uncle Steve - who can ever remember her name? Certainly not Uncle Steve, who refers to her as "it" - would be quietly thrilled with Songs from Northern Britain by Tcenage Fanclub (Creation) because, with their winsome Scottish harmonies and sturdy oak-beam loveliness, they will remind her of the first fella she ever fell in love with, and planned to marry, until Uncle Steve bought her that Tia Maria and it all

Grandma? Well, for the grandmother who was a bit of a goer in her day, Curtains by the Tindersticks (Island) evokes that drunk-on-red-wine, faded-velvetdresses-and-demob-suits era with which she'll no doubt be very familiar. Do warn her in advance, however, that there's a big swear word on track three. She may want to sing along with it. For the prim grandma, the pre-Raphaelite pastoral strummings of the Sundays' Static and Silence (Parlophone) would be ideal - the tempo never goes above knitting-speed.

That lovey-dovey couple who spend every weekend blocking the aisles in Ikea because they are

holding hands over a pine colander and kissing? For them we have Andromeda Heights by Prciab Sprout (Sony) — a Sondheimian paean to the beauty of life, the inevitability of death and the wonder of the night sky. Do bear in mind that they will probably conceive to it, however, and you will be godmother to a grumpy child called Andromeda.

Workmates are always tricky. You hate them; if you had your way they'd be getting an envelope full of mould. But since June they have been filled with smugness about the gift they have got you. So give the "wacky" bloke with the horrible ties Ladies and Gentlemen. We are now Floating in Space by Spiritualized (Dedicated), a collection of druggy symphonies of unspeakable

glory. He'll hate it. Goal! And get the office cow Death to

the Pixies by the Pixies (4AD). As it's a collection of some of the filthiest, most abrasive surf-rock ever recorded, she'il be horrified. Goal two! And the boss? Blur by Biur (Parlophone). He liked Parklife, with its chirpy geezer cockney pop and singalong choruses, but he won't be singing along to the garage thrash of Chinese Bombs. Oh no. He'll be worried that "he doesn't get it", that he's too old, and he'll be penning his resignation by the new year. Hat-

Secure in the knowledge that you have once and for all proven that your colleagues have the musical taste of dead sponges, you can feel free to treat yourself to OK Computer by Radiohead (Parlophone). which just is the best album of the year. Because Christmas, at the end of the day, is all about you.





It's two for the show from Roni Size, the award-winning in-your-face-face of drum and bass, while Supergrass (right) churn out the sort of guitar-led rock that makes you feel good about being alive at the end of the millennium

David Sinclair, meanwhile, sees salvation in the clatter of drum and bass

Crossing the bridge of Size remember being struck by the genius of Roni Size's album Newforms (Talkin' Loud/Mercury) while travelling on a train. I had heard it before, but its ultra-hip mixture of jazzy vocals and drum and bass grooves hadn't really clicked. to tomorrow However, accompanied by the pneumatic vibration of the carriage and a view of the

weeks later Newforms had won the Mercury Music Prize and Size was being hailed as the new messiah of drum and

Brown Paper Bag seemed to assume a deep karmic signifi-Whether or not you subcance that has stayed with me scribe to the idea of drum and bass as the "new jazz", it is by At that point, Size and his far the most exciting developgroup Reprazent were still ment in British popular music unknown outside the world of since the house/rave revoluhardcore drum and bass, and tion of the 1980s and may well have an equally profound effect on how we listen to the album had next to no chance of being a hit. Eight

English countryside racing

past the window, the frantic momentum of numbers such

as Railing, Morse Code, Des-tination and the awesome

music in future. My other favourites from this supple and free ranging genre are the propulsive Big Loada by Squarepusher (Warp), the cinematic Colours by Adam F (Positiva/EMI) and the sophis-

ticated self-titled album by D*Note (VC/Virgin). The deluded way in which the supposed demise of the Spice Girls has been reported by a media determined to cut them down to size has failed to take account of one inconvenient detail. Their "flop" album, Spiceworld (Virgin), which can't seem to make up its mind whether to be No I or No 2 in the charts, is actually crammed with top tunes. I hear it most days, thanks to my daughter and her friends, and I applied its sheer vivaciand I applaud its sheer vivacity and positive message. But mainly I just like the tunes.

For very different reasons, I continue to adore Radio-head's OK Computer (Parlophone), another sublime collection of songs that offer a window on the twisted, misanthropic world view of singer Thom Yorke. An honourable mention in the rock-groupswith-integrity-led-by-singerswith-a-chip-on-their-shoulder category must also go to The Verve, who have at last managed to pull off a similar trick with their impressive third album, *Urban Hymns* (Hut).

This has been an extraordinary year for British music. Although overall sales are static, the ten bestselling albums of 1997 in the UK, so far, are all by British acts. So perhaps it is fitting that my only non-British fa-vourite should be a rank outsider, namely Intervision (Warp) by the Finnish composer and producer, Jimi Tenor. A tremendous musician, classically trained on saxophone, piano and flute, yet steeped in the grimy, lo-fi production values of street-level club culture, Tenor marries gorgeous jazz-funk melodies to loungecore-techno grooves to pro-duce music of wondrous ingenuity and exuberance.

It was also a vintage year for rock traditionalists. Bob Dylan made an unexpected return to form with Time Out of Mind (Columbia), Reef swaggered to No I with Glow (Sony S2). Mike Scott rediscovered electric rock'n'roll with the poetic Still Burning (Chrysalis) and Paul Weller came up with a handful of spine-tingling songs on his under-rated Heavy Soul (Go! Discs/Island).

But my money still goes on the Rolling Stones for Bridges to Babylon (Virgin), an album that rocks twice as hard as any of the above (except Reef), exuding a delinquent energy particularly in Mick Jagger's vocal performances -that time has emphatically

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SLAVA'S SHOWSHOW Slava Polunin and his company return with their display of ingenious clowing building to an amazing, tampesticus climax.
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Mon-Sat, 7 30pm and 8 45pm, Sun, 5pm and 7pm Until January 11 LONDON WOMAD WEEKEND: The Barbican will be buzzing this weekend as the Cantre's second Global Spirit testival gets going. Free events abound, while among the highlights in the Bartacan Hall are a concert formation (Zorn by Zon Marris and Chartley)

S BEAUTY AND THE BEAST:
Disney's firm turned into a his Broedway
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Chine's impressive (and doubtiess camp) musical tribute to the disco divide to the disco divide to the disco divide to the majorisonation of Karen Carpenter is said to be flawless (fung's Head, Upper Street, Na (0171-226 1916) Tue-Thur, Bpm; Fn and Set, 7pm and Spm, Sun, 3 30pm. Until January 4

DAVID COPPSATELD Matrium
France adapts and directs the Dickens
tale for his last production ea artistic
director Damien Matthews plays Dawd.
Greenwich, Crooms HK, SC 10 (m81858 7755) Mon-Sat. 7.45pm. mas Sat.
350cm. mas Sat.

2 30pm mid-wesk mats Dec 11, 18, 2 30pm; Dec 22, 26, 27, 29, 3pm, Jan 16, 2 30pm Until January 24

IN THE HOUSE OF DESIRES: One



WEEKEND CHOICE

A daily guide to arts

and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargle

and a rare London appearance on Sunday (7pm) by the illustrious jezz vocasis Nina Swione Beatsless, Silk Street, EC2 (01 71-638 8691) Tomorrow and Sunday, (§)

BIRMINGHAM: A cast of star soldist

mphony Orchestra re

is assembled for this concert performance by the City of Birmingham Symphony Or

ELSEWHERE

babytalk at the Vaudeville

leremy Kingston's assess of thestre showing in Lon

D AN IDEAL HUSSAND: Renum or Perer Half's enjoyable production, brimful of deceptions. Starring Martin Snaw and Smon Ward, and Kate 3pm and Set, 4pm MORE GRIEN TALES A MICON

group of stories by the same learn of Carol Ann Dufly (writer) and Tim Supple (director) who created the excellent 1994 show Marvellously mesbre The Young Vis. 66 The Cut. SE1 (0) 71-928 (335) Mon-Sal at various. times (10 30am, 1 30cm, 2.30cm, 7cm) and on Sun (Jan 4, 11, 16), 4pm HI OTHELLO: David Harmwood makes the call out in the like with

NEW RELEASES

A PURTHER GESTURE (15) Slephen Rea's escaped PA preoner finds the hard in Manhatten, Boquert human chame with Rosana Passor and Afried Molina, Director, Robert Comhetm. ABC Pleasifily (0171-437-3561)

ABC Picoscilly (0171-437 3561)
I KONOW WHITH TYOU DIE LAST
SUMMERT (18) Recovers learnings of their comeuppence. Variable horror firm horn the winds of Screen; With Jarville Love Heisell, Friedra Piroth Jr Cwacor, Jun Gilespae. Odeona: Kerneington (0181-315 4214)
Swiss Cottage (0181-315 4229) Pican
Science (181-315 4219) Pican
(1920 888990) Pitzy (0171-737
2121) UCI Whiteleys § (0990 888990)
Virgina: Pulitiem Road (0171-370 8015)
Warmer § (0171-437 4343) PERSONS UNKNOWN (18) JOS

tegna, Kelly Lynch and Neorys Watts burn their tingers steeling drug money 50-so crime thrifler, directed by George **Setro** (0171-437 0757)

 TOMORROW NEVER DOES [12]:
Perca Brossen's James Bond comba en evil media mogul (Jonathan Prych) Set prece thnis, but intle spanide With Wichelle Yeah and Ten Hatcher, Interview From and Term Haustram.
Director, Roper Spottstwoode.
ABC Tettenham Court Road (0171-638 8891)
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) Curzon Mayteir (0171-368 1720)
Greenwich (0181-235 3005) Neding
Hill Coronat (2) (0171-727 6705)

CURRENT

COP LAND (15) Lacy sherift ponders what to do about corrupt cope Passed by a shared as

Humperdinch's Hensel and Gretel Susen Perry and Rosa Mannon sing the title roles, with Mary Lloyd Davies and Danild Misured as the posterious. Donald Mittored as the parterious parents Mark Elder conducts the orchestre and the CBS Youth Chor Symphony Hall, Broad Street (0121-212 3333) Tonight, 7pm

GLASGOW: Antony Besch returns to Souttish Opera to direct his original production of Puccan's Tosca, which updates the action to Missolini's lascest traly of the 1940s Soprano Ekzabeth traily of the 1940s Soprano Elizabeth Byrne sings the title role, with Marthew Best as the villainous Scarpia. Theetre Royal, Hope Street (0141-332 8000). Opens tonight, 7 15pm. (5) Also in Gleagour: Reiph Reach plays the old skuffint in Andy Faneli's production of A Christmas Carol for Communicado, using Neil Bartleti's

enecuve adaptation.
Tron Theetre, 63 Trongate (0141-552
4267), Opens tonight, 7 30pm Plays
most even 7.30pm. Mats almost daily,
2pm Dec 15, 1pm and Dec 31, 5pm. [5] pm Dec 15. Ipm and dec 37. Spin. 18.

MANCHESTER: The virue of English plants Peter Donohoe joins the BBC Prahamonic under Vessity Stressky for a performance of Tchalkovsky's Plano Concerto No 1. The programms also learnes Schednin's Carmen Ballet Suite and Shostakovsch's Symphony No 1.

Bridgewater Hall, Lover Mockey Street (0161-907 9000). Torrnenow, 7, 30 no. 8,

WARWICSE Richard Amestong conducts the Bournemouth
Symphony Orchestru in an all-English
programme. The leading violinist Tasmin
Ultile jors the orchestra in a
performance of Eigar's Violin Concern. mich is framed by works by Bliss and

Wateri Warwick Arts Centre, University of Warwick (01203 524524) Tomonow, 7 30pm (6)

THEATRE GUIDE

eventually ordered to stop writing effer clarming a woman's right to be an visiblectual five right's subject is three min and five woman holded in overlapping love trangles, and also locked together in a house. BAC. Lavender Hill, SW11 (0171-223 2223). Tue-Set, 8pm; mar Sun, 8pm O'Many as the sweet troublemous Gleigud, Shaffesbury Ave. W1 (0171-494 5065), Mon-Set, 7 45pm; mets Thu

CINEMA GUIDE

films in London and (where ndicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

Odeons: Carneline Town (D161-315 4255) Kassington (D161-315-4214) Celcoster Square (D161-315-4216) Marche Aren (D161-315-4216) Swries Cettage (D161-315-4220) Ribry (D171-737-2131) Square/Balor Sysset (D171-936-2772) Virgins: Chelses (D171-352 6086) Pulhem Reed (D171-370-2836)

◆ THE BORDOWERS (U): Minuscula THE BOHOROWESTS (U); manuscious and state for their horse, scavenges being for their horse, much adapted from the onliders a decate: With John Goodman, Jim Broscherk, Director,

Peter Hewit.
Berbican (S. (0171-638 8891)
Greenwich (0181-335 3005) Odmone:
Karamington (0181-315 4214) Merbie
Arch (0181-315 4216) Swiss Cattage
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889990) UCF Whiteleys (S. (0990)
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Clare Signer as Mrs Othelia and Smon Russell Beale as lago. National (Cottesloe), South Benk, SE1 (0171-928 2252) Tonight and tomorow, 77pm, mat tomorow, 1 30pm. In rep. SCISSOR HAPPY Cornedy

whodunnt where the audience can play detective. Adapted by Nell Multarkay, Lee Simpson and Robert Harley from the US long-runner Shear Machess. Duchess, Came in Street, WC2 (0171-494 5075) Mon-Fn, 8pm; 8 30pm and 8 30pm, met Wed, 2.30pm.

CITHUNK NO EVIL OF USE DAYS Benson completes more than a year of touring his lascinating, semi-autobiographical biography of Kenneth Williams. Last change to see this furry. and porgnant show Lyric Studio. King Street, Hammersmith, W6 (0181-741 8701) Mon-Set, Spm, met Set, 4.30pm, &

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IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE (II) Frish Capin's American descio, inwed in a new plot i Wilh James Sensen as the deubong (to-pools Capitism Picture House (0171-498 3323) Curson West End (0171-359 1722) Sensen/Hill (2) (0171-435 3396) Virgin Fethern Road (0171-370 2638) ONE HIGHT STAND (18) Absorbing study in inficinity and its altermath Excellent performancies from Wesley Shipes, Naminesia forelly, Roburt Downey Jr. and Kyle MacLachlan Downley of and Kyle MacLachlan Whiter-discotor, Mike Riggs. Gate & (0171-727-4043) Octoon Camden Town (0181-315-4256) Please & (0390 888990) Ritzy (0171-737 2127) UCI Whiteriey & (0171-737 Virgin Trocadero & (0181-970-0016) Warner & (0171-437-4343)

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ATKINIS

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A toilet duck of a comic

rank Skinner is comedy's stealth weapon. He seemed to creep Battersea ... into fame without anyone noticing, and once he got

there it was as if he had been able excursion into sexual around for ever. After a Perriexcess it was an evening of divine puerility. er award, some successful television work and a hit Cornedy, particularly ingensingle, he has stealthily be-

uously naughty stuff such as Skinner's, really works through intimacy. The public's love of Skinner rests on the idea that he is just a nice bloke who tells jokes a wee bit too fruity for other blokes to get away with down the pub. Of course, other blokes don't get to tell them to 6,000 people.

But it was actually the acute bathos of his material that made it possible for him to work a crowd of that size. Had he tried to be terribly clever (and, much as he keeps it hidden, I suspect that he is very clever indeed) it could all have gone horribly wrong. Instead he bonded away happily, told us terrible secrets about his sex life and victimised the front row as if he were playing the Birmingham Association.

A show this size is as much about spectacle as it is about comedy. It was certainly an impressive gig for a solo nob gag merchant, but any larger and one might as well be



With 6,000 punters at his Battersea show, Frank Skinner set a record for a solo comedian

watching it on TV. As yet. Britain's biggest gig proper was played by a duo including Skinner's former flatmate, that other great nob gag merchant, David Baddiel. Since there really is no way for them to get bigger, it seems that one of the more memorable images of 1990s comedy

may be the thought of Skinner and Baddiel sitting around at home comparing gig sizes.

HETTIE JUDAH

CONCERTS: Four languid hands on two pianos; two whirling hands on an array of percussion:

Sisters' shortfall

come Britain's most popular

short ten years in comedy

Frank Skinner played Batter-

sea Power Station. Not the

station itself, more the shadow

of the station; a shame, really,

since there is nothing more apt

to warm your winter Schaden-

freude than a top comedian

being upstaged by a pile of

solo comedy show, with an audience of 6,000, proper

rock n'roll TV screens, hot dog

stands and a bar with nine

refrigerators full of lemon and

lime alcopops. As he quite rightly remarked: "This is a

dramatic setting for an hour

and a half of nob jokes isn't it?"

comedian, save perhaps Mich-

ael Palin, has such boyish

charm. But even Palin can't

tell a nob joke the way Skinner

can. From his unprintable

experiment with lemon-scent-

ed wet-wipes to his unprint-

And such nob jokes. No

Still, it was the biggest ever

To celebrate his remarkably

live comedian.

bricks.

Katia and Marielia Laboque Manchester

MERCIFULLY prompt though they are - at least to those who knew that the starting time of their recital had been put back by half an hour -- Katia and Marielle Labèque are apparently not very good at arithmetic. Certainly, Debussy's En blanc et noir and Petite Suite, Bach's Double Concerto in C. and Tchaikovsky's Capriccio Italien do not add up to a concert. Even with an encore reckoned in, it is still 30 minutes short: signing CDs in the foyer afterwards does not count.

It would be a pity if, after being such a valuable adomment to the fourhands repertoire for so long, the Labèque sisters ceased to be the good value they have always been. There are signs, however, that they find a little less joy these days in making music with each other. It would have made sense, for example, to begin the concert with the Petite Suite, which would have been so much more friendly an

introduction than the other Debussy piece, the comparatively forbidding product of the composer's wartime last years, En blanc et noir. As it was, the first item to rouse the audience to more than polite enthusiasm was the last and the noisiest, Tchaikovsky's arrangement of his Capriccio Italien, which inspired in Katia her familiar vocalisations, heel-tapping and general posture of abandon. Marielle in the meantime, her face hidden from the audience by her hair, kept decorously

There was no doubt about the technical quality of their performance of En blanc et noir. Perhaps the problem, apart from the absence of their characteristic flair in presentation, is that the Bridgewater Hall is too big for such an intimate work. In these circumstances, in spite of the brilliance of the fugal last movement of the Bach and the exquisite lyricism of En bateau in the Petite Suite, the bigger the gesture the more effective it was.

it is true that there are not many classical pieces which, like the jazz encore offered here, end on a downward glissando so vigorous that it bounces a pianist dramatically to her feet. But, as the Labèque sisters must know better than anyone, there are more than enough four-hand pieces suitable for a two-hour concert in a

GERALD LARNER

Flat out in the sticks

Evelyn Clerinie - Barbican -

TUESDAY night was percussion night in London, with Evelyn Glennie's performance in the Barbican's Celebrity Recitals series coinciding with the Safri Duo's Wigmore Hall appearance. More than any other instrumentalists, this new breed of concert percussionist has had to create its own repertory, and Glennie's programme featured no fewer than eight fairly unfamiliar composers.

Two works were receiving their world premieres. Dave Heath's Darkness to Light opens in a world of gloomy, disembodied effects but builds towards a glowing, dreamy close. It is a more substantial score than the other new work. Reuben De Lautour's Piece *Meal*, in which dense piano and drum parts move in and out of focus with each other but offer little musical interests. Perhaps we did not hear quite the balance intended, because Philip Smith, Glennie's pianist, was

shortcoming in Glennie's hugely impressive act. Despite her breathfaking virtuosity and very communicative spoken introductions to the works, she is sometimes so score-bound that the printed music becomes both a physical and imagined barrier between her and the audience. Much of the music she plays demands improvisatory freedom, or at least an illusion of it.

Glennie would also do everyone a favour by seeking out better compos-ers. Too much of what she performs lacks musical originality, relying instead on the kind of riffs percussionists love to play for their own amusement. David Horne's Reaching Out, a study for untuned perpussion. Askell Masson's Prim for solo snare drum, and the standard jazz of John Psathas's Drum Dances were all too predictable. though Psathas proved himself capable of something more interesting in his exuberant Happy Tachyons.

JOHN ALLISON

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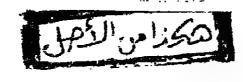
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main langued to please of the same of the confirm mealed on Sen-lug, His Lardship although the wife's air been resoured by M undue influence.

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When interests of child are not paramount

Regina v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte Gangadeen and

Same v Same, Ex parte Khan Before Lord Justice Hirst. Lord Justice Swinton Thomas and Sir Brian Neill

(Judgment November 27) Where the Home Secretary was

removal from the United Kingdom of an illegal entrant with a child having right of abode, he was not bound rigidly to follow his own policy guidance provided he gave reasons for departing from it.

The practice of allowing such persons to remain in the United Kingdom was an extra-statutory concession and the court would b slow to interfere with a decision not to grant it.

In approaching the problem as a weight to be given to the considerations on each side of the balance was to be assessed according to the individual circumstances of the case, the Home Secretary was not decisions of the European Court of Human Rights, which did not support the notion that the interests of the child were para-mount under article 8 of the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedonss 1953 (Cmd

The Court of Appeal so held dismissing two appeals: (i) by Mrs Philomena Gangadeen and her son Daniel Jurawan, aged seven, against the dismissal by Mr Jus rice Harrison on November 15, 1990 of their application for Judicial review of a decision by the Home Secretary on August 31, 1995

tan Borough Council

Before Lord Justice Schiemann

it was mandatory for the court to

award custs to individuals bring-

ing proceedings for statutory nul

sance and such costs should

include costs incurred in establish-

ing that a statutory nuisance

The Oueen's Bench Divisional

Court so held in a reserved

judgment, inter alia, allowing two

appeals by case stated by Mar-garet Hollis and David Paul

Probert against decisions of Dud-

ley Magistrates Court to disallow

bringing proceedings agains

Council in respect of proceedings

for statutory nuisances made

pursuant to section 82 of the

Section 82 of the 1990 Act

"(12) Where on the hearing of

proceedings for an order under

subsection (2) above it is proved

that the alleged nuisance existed at the date of the making of the

order the defendant ... to pay to the person bringing the proceed-

ings such amount as the court ennsiders reasonably sufficient to

MR JUSTICE MOSES.

delivering the judgment of the court, said it was clear that the

words "shall order" in section 82(12) of the 1940 Act connoted an

compensate hint for any expen

Findley for the council.

nplaint, then ... the court shall

Environmental

1990).

provides:

all the costs incurred by them in

Metropolitan Borough

Probert v Same

and Mr Justice Moses

Judgment November 25

removal to India: (ii) by Mr Khalid Khan against the dismissal by Mr Justice Turner on October 8, 1996 of his application for judicial review of a deportation order made against him by the Home Secretary on January 31, 1996.
Article 8 of the European

Convention provides: "I Everyone has the right to respect for his private and family life, his home and his correspondence.

"2 There shall be no interference by a public authority with the cise of this right except such as is in accordance with the law and necessary in a democratic society in the interests of national security. public satery or the economic being of the country, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for olic safety or the economic v prevention of disorder or the morals, the protection of health or morals, or the protection of the rights and freedoms of others."

Mr Patrick Duffy, QC and Mr Ramby de Mello for Mr Khan; Mr Nicholas Blake, QC and Mr Asoka Dias for Mrs Gangadeen and her son: Mr David Pannick, QC and Secretary in Khan's case, Mr David Pannick, QC and Mr Mark Shaw for the Home Secretary in Gangadeen's case.

LORD JUSTICE HIRST said the cases had been listed together because each raised an important question of general principle, namely whether in a case where a decision by the Home Secretary to remove a person from the United Kingdom affected the interests of the child of the prospective deportee preference had to be given to the best interests of the child as the

paramount consideration.

Mrs Gangadeen, an Indian citizen, had entered the UK in 1983 on six months leave and had been

Mr Matheson submitted that

the words "properly incurred . . . in

the proceedings" empowered courts to disallow not merely

excessive costs but also all costs

where proceedings need not have been brought at all.

The words "expenses ... in-

curred ... in the proceedings"

limited compensation to expenses

incurred in the preparation for the hearing and at the hearing.

could be made one day after the

nunimum period of notice had

elapsed at a time when work had

started to abate the nuisance and

possibly before it had finished.

Moreover, a person who delib-erately obstructed works to abate a

nuisance could have a right to

submissions failed to give suf-

ficient weight to the statutory

Parliament having afforded an

opportunity for an aggrieved per-son to bring proceedings for statu-

tory nuisance as soon as a brief

notice period had expired could not

be supposed to have allowed at the

same time for that advantage to be

removed at the discretion of jus-

tices on the ground that the

opportunity should not have been

It was clear that if the statutory

nuisance was abouted before

proceedings were instituted the

complainant could recover none of

The words "properly incurred" in section \$2(12) meant no more

costs than were necessary and permitted the court to displiou-

not have been incurred.

apenses which it considered need

seized by the complai

His Lordship said that those

He pointed out that a complaint

Awarding costs after

statutory nuisance

Hollis v Dudley Metropoli- the casts incurred by the appellant.

times married to another woman. Daniel had lived in the UK all his life, resided with his mother and her hundrand a British citizen, had attended school since 1993 and retained a close relationship with his father and other paternal

Mr Khan, a Pakistani citizen, had married a British citizen in Pakistan in 1989 and their dan ter Saira had been born in the UK in May 1990. Mr Khan had arrived in England in 1992 with 12 months leave to enter as the husband of a British citizen, but the couple had separated in 1993 and were living apart.

His Lordship referred to the Home Office deportation policy guidance Marriage and Children (IDP/2/93), said to take account of article 8 of the Convention.

It was common ground that the Home Secretary was in ordinary circumstances obliged to act in accordance with his declared policy, which provided that where a person settled in the UK had lasted more than two years, deportation or illegal entry action should as a general rule not be initiated or

The policy also provided that the crucial question where a person to be removed or deported had custody of a child with right of abode in the UK was whether it was reasonable for the child to accompany the parent to live abroad. If he departed from the policy it was incumbent on the Home Secretary to explain why.

It was also common ground that he must balance the interests of the child against considerations of Immigration policy and control. But the two sides parted company over the scope of the Home Secretary's discretion in applying the policy, as to the status in English law of the European confer a broad measure of dis-Convention and its impact on the construction of the policy and as to the degree of primacy if any which must be accorded to the interests of the child in the balancing exercise. Mr Blake and Mr Duffy had

abouted that the best interests of the child must be the paramount consideration, and that article 8 as terpreted by the decisions of the European Court of Human Rights should directly inform the Home Secretary as to the proper mode of application of his policy, which should be treated as a formal instruction to immigration officers and Home Office officials.

Mr Pannick had submitted that the policy was no more than guidance, concerned with an extra-statutory concession whereby people were allowed to remain who would otherwise be subject to removal. The court should not intervene provided the Home Secretary had regard to the policy and made a reasonable decision.

It was not open to the applicants to rely on the jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights since the Convention was not part of English law. In any event artic required no more than a fair lance between competing considerations, with no special preference for family life or the interests of the child.

His Lordship reviewed the ties on the scope of the Home Secretary's discretion under the policy. In his judgment the essential purpose of the policy was to provide guidance, so that it would be wrong to treat it as a rigid instruction. The court should be very slow to interfere with the Home Secretary's decision not to grant what was essentially a concession on extra-statutory

report by prison staff, a number

The representations made were

impressive. From the gist statement, the Prisoners Advice Service

had been able to make meaningful

and useful representations on the

appellant's behalf. The written

cision indicated that the nature of

the appellant's offence was central to their decision.

The annual review was nor-mally conducted by a category A

review team. The appellant's case

did not conform to the normal

criteria for reference to the com-

mittee but exceptionally he was

referred because of his representa-

The appellant submitted that he

sustained injustice by the ap-proach adopted in making information available to prisoners.

He relied on R v Parole Board, Ex

parte Wilson ([1992] I QB 740), R v Secretary of State for the Home

Department, Ex parte Doody ([1994] 2 AC 531). R v Secretary of

State for the Home Department, Ex parte Duggan (1994) 3 All ER 271) and R v Secretary of State for

Parole Board had acted. The appellant submitted that if it could

for the categorisation process. If it could be done, it should be done.

done for parole, it could be done

itement of the committee's de-

of incidents at the prison and factors both favourable and ad-

verse to him.

cretion on the Home Secretary in policy, so long as he had regard to it and made a decision which was not inherently irrational. The greater the interference with human rights the more the court would require by way of

Although the UK's international obligation to abide by the Convention was not enforceable in the domestic courts, the courts would not ignore it nor entirely exclude rence to the jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights which would be given great weight in cases where the facts Berrehab v The Netherlands

((1988) 11 EHRR 322), Abdulaziz v UK ((1988) 7 EHRR 471) and Poku v clearly demonstrated that, in their context of deportations or re-movals involving children, the Human Rights Court and the Commission approached the prob-lem as a straightforward balancstarted even, and where the weight to be given to the considerations on each side of the balance was to be ual circumstances of the case thus

that paramountey was to be given to the interests of the child. His Lordship considered each case in detail and concluded that there was no basis for interfering with either of the Home Sec-

retary's decisions. Lord Justice Swinton Thomas gave a concurring judgment and Sir Brian Neill agreed.

Solicitors: J. R. Jones,

Prisoner's right to know gist of reports to review body

Regina v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte McAvoy

Before Lord Woolf, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Hobbouse and Lord Justice Mantell Judgment December 31

A prisoner whose security status was under review had a right to the gist of reports to the review body so that he could make representations as to his tegorisation knowing the case he

had to meet. Fairness did not require full disclosure of all the material supplied to the review body or disclosure of the names of those who had provided the information. The Court of Appeal so held,

dismissing an appeal from Mich-ael John McAvoy from the refusal of Mr Justice Forbes on March 21. 1997 to grant judicial review of the decision that the appellant should remain a category A prisoner, or to grant a declaration that the appelit was entitled, subject to p interest immunity, to full disclosure of all reports to be placed

before the category A committee.
In December 1984 the appellant was convicted of armed robbery of gold bullion and diamonds valued at £26 million from the Brink's Mat security depot and sentenced to 25 years imprisonment. He was initially categorised as category A and remained in category A. In November 1995 he was pro-

vided with the gist of reports to be disclosed to the category A com-mittee on his annual security review.

Service he made representations category B but the committee maintained his category A classification. He applied unsuccessfully for judicial review. He

Mr Edward Fitzgerald, QC and Miss Phillippa Kaufmann for the appellant; Mr Kenneth Parker, QC and Ms Dinah Rose for the Home

THE MASTER OF THE the proper running of a prison. ROLLS said the appellant was Category A prisoners were among the most dangerous within the offence. The gist statement for the system. There could be considerable difficulty in managing those review drew attention to the Importance of the appellant's offence,

In Doody the House of Lords had endorsed the approach of providing the gist of material relied on rather than the material itself. That procedure, at present adopted by prison authorities on perfectly satisfactory and perfectly

Most importantly, where it was appropriate; those responsible for the review were prepared to re-consider in the circumstances of any particular case whether additional material should be made available. That provided sufficient

Lord Justice Hobbsuse and Lord Justice Mantell agreed; on consti-Solicitors: Mr Simon Creighton: Before Lard Justice Roch, Lard Justice Thorpe and Lord Justice Undernent December 31 A police officer exercising his statutory power of entering a home

by the use of reasonable force should, unless circumstances made it impossible, impracticable or undesirable, give any occupant present the reason for his seeking to exercise that power of entry. The Court of Appeal so held (Lord Justice Thorpe dissenting) in a reserved judgment dismissing the appeal of the Chief Constabl of Essex against the order of Judge O'Brien on November 25, 1996, in Basildon County Court, after the trial of an action before him and a jury, giving judgment for the plaintiff, Patrick Brian O'Loughlin, for £7,785 plus costs in his claim for damages for, inter alia, assault by the defendant's

O'Loughlin v Chief Constable

of Esser

Westcliff, Essex.
Section 17 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 pro-vides: (1) ... a constable may enter and search any premises for the purpose ... (b) of arresting a person for an arrestable

officers on November 25, 1990 at

his home in Osborne Road,

Section 117 provides: "Where any provision of this Act — (a) confers a power on a constable; and (b) does not provide that the power may only be exercised with the consent of some person, other than a police officer, the officer may use reasonable force, if necessary, in the exercise of the power."

Mr John Grace, QC and Mr Mark Ley-Morgan for the defen-dant: Mr Michael Douglas, QC and Mr Marc Brittsin for the

LORD JUSTICE ROCH said that the wife of the plaintiff, returning home together after visiting a number of public houses on the night of November 24, 1990, smashed the windscreen of a neighbour's car parked in front of

heir house. On the defendant's pleaded case three officers arrived at the plaintiff's bouse, the glass in the front door was atready smashed, the door was being barricaded from inside and the plaintiff and his wife were shouting and swearing.

When asked to be allowed in, the

plaintiff's wife swore and spat at the officers. While one officer ettempted to gain entry the blaintiff pushed against the door but it was forced open and he was pulled through the open door.

Necessary and reasonable force was used to restrain him, as he was struggling violently, and he was handcuffed and told he was being arrested for an offence against public order. He sustained a blackened and cut eye and was taken to the police stadion. Sub-sequently, he was bound over to

At the trial of his claim, the judge ruled there was insufficient evi-dence to go to the jury that any officer told him they wished to enter the house to arrest his wife. There was no appeal against that

Police should give reasons

before forcible entry

The judge found that, notwithstanding the plaintiff's and his wife's irrational and abusive behaviour, circumstances had not arisen for the officers to force entry without announcing their inten-tion, and he directed the jury to determine the question of damages as the claim had succeeded. His Lordship said that, at com-

mon law, the police's power to arrest without warrant had been replaced by statutory powers, such as section 17 of the 1984 Act. At common law, reasons were required to be given for the arrest to be lawful: Christie v Leachinsky (1947) AC 573). As was said in Swales v Cor (1981) QB 849, 855), an officer had a

severe burden to discharge when trying to justify that entry of premises by force was necessary. It would be wrong to read Swales as saying that the simple refusal of a entry of itself rendered the use of

orce necessary. In his Lordship's view the judge was entitled to derive support from Code B, on the searching of premises by police officers, of Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (s.66) Codes of Practice by way of analogy, when determining whether the use of force was ary, although, strictly speaking, the code did not apply to the present situation. The judge's rulg was correct.

Lord Justice Thorpe gave a LORD JUSTICE BUXTON said that it was recognised that the requirement to give reasons at common law when arresting with-out warrant was not absolute: Christie v Leachinsky and Brazil v Chief Constable of Surrey (1983) 1

qualified according to the In the case of questioning by the police as contrasted with arrest. the principle that there was no legal duty on a citizen to assist the

Connolly (1966) 2 OB 414, 419, and

Collins v Wilcock (1984) 1 WLR

[172]. In the present case, although it was eventually accepted that the police explained to the plaintiff and his wife their reason for entry was a wish to speak to the wife about damage to the neighbour's car, a most important factor was the ting of insufficient evidence for the jury that the officers stated they wished to enter to arrest the wife, since it was therefore common ground that the police's stated reason for entry was one that gave them no right in law

The obligation to inform a citizen why his liberty was being interfered with, although not absolute, was a strong one, and one that Parliament had to be taken to have had in mind when it conferred the power on the police in section 2 of the Criminal Law Act 1967 and continued it in the 1984

It was wholly unlikely that Parliament would have thought that the power of the police could be exercised on the basis of, or be adequately explained to the subject in terms of a wish to investigate. The position was no different under the 1984 Act

The defendant relied on observa tions by the Divisional Court in Lunt v DPP (1993) Crim LR 534) but that court was not considering the issue which the present court conceded there that the use of force

by the police was necessary. His Lordship agreed with a note to the abbreviated report of that case by Professor Str John Smith (at p535): "... should it not be necessary, by analogy to the com mon law rule regarding arrest laid down in Christie . . . for the officer to give reasons? . . . Freedom of the home from invasion is an interest of comparable importance to free dom from arrest and is deserving of a comparable degree

protection." The important rule of the common law, in his Lordship's view, applying not only to arrest but to other interferences with liberty, as in Brazil, did indeed apply to the exercise of powers under sections 17 and 117 of the 1984 Act.

Solicitors: Barlow Lyde & Gil-

Appeals discouraged

Appeals under Order 82, rule 34 of the Rules of the Supreme Court should be discouraged. The purpose of the rule was to provide a speedy decision in chambers as to hether or not words complained of in an action for defamation were capable of bearing the meaning contended for.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Hirst, Lord Justice Henry and Mr Justice Harman) so obHinduja and Gopichand P. Hinduja against a decision of Mr Justice May on October I. 1996 holding that words complained of in their action for libel were capable of bearing a meaning sought to be justified by the defendant, Asia TV Ltd.

LORD JUSTICE HIRST said Order 82, rule 3 was intended to lay down a swift procedure to eliminate meanings which the words were incapable of bearing.

100 40

the Home Department, Ex parte Creamer and Scholey (unreported, On a proper reading of section properly incurred by him in the 82(12) the costs recoverable by a complainant would include costs Assisted by the Prisoners Advice October 21, 1992). It was now the practice, on Mr Timothy Struker, QC and incurred in establishing that a seeking to be downgraded to considering parole, to make avail-Mr Michael Singleton for the appellants: Mr Duncan Matheson, QC and Mr James nuisance existed prior to bringing able to prisoners in the appellant's position the material on which the

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In considering whether the meedure adopted was fair, prac-Solicitors: Geffens, Walsall; Mr considerations had to apply in Severing objectionable part of instrument

Barciays Bank pic v Caplan Before Mr Jonathan Sumption,

Liudement November 26) It was occasionally possible for the affected by undue influence the objectionable parts leaving the part uncontaminated by undue rce enforceable.

Mr Jonathan Sumption, QC, sitting as a deputy High Court judge, so held in a reserved judgment in the Chancery Division on an action by Barclays Bank plc for possession of a property belonging to Michael Isaac Caplan and Pauline Vivienne Caplan.

There were third party proceedings against Ronald Nathan & Co, the solicitors who advised Mrs Caplan, based on the allegation that if she was bound by the charge, they had failed to advise her appropriately.

Mr Jain Hughes, QC and Mr Simon Monty for the bank: Mr Michael Lyndon-Stanford, QC and Miss Elspeth Talbut-Rice for Mrs Caplan: Mr Francis Bacon for

HIS LORDSHIP said that the bank's charge over the home owned jointly by Mr and Mrs Capian to secure Mr Capian's business debts was binding on Mr Caplan. But Mrs Caplan resisted possession on the ground that her signing the charge was procured her historia's undue influence of which the bank had constructive

The charge, which was originally limited to guarantee a loan of £300,000 to one company, was first executed on September 15. 1986. His Lordship found that although the wife's signature had been procured by Mr Caplan's undue influence, applying Barcians Bank pic v O'Brien

(1994) I AC 180, 196G-197B), the bank had taken adequate steps to ensure that she had had indepenthe transaction and was therefore not fixed with constructive notice of the wife's right to have the

transaction set aside. However, on November 30, 1987 Mr and Mrs Caplan signed a side-letter which extended the charge to cover guarantees of the husband's debts of an unlimited amount and in respect of three additional companies. His Lordship found that the bank had failed to ensure that Mrs Caplan had received appropriate independent legal advice before she signed that

The hank was therefore not entitled to enforce the charge against Mrs Caplan as to the additional three guarantees for an unlimited amount.

The question was whether its failure to take reasonable steps to ensure that she had freely consented to the increase of the burden unenforceable even as to the original burden.

At common law, where an instrument contained legally objectionable features which were unenforceable against one party. they might be severed from the rest of the instrument if (i) the un-enforceable leature was capable of being removed by the excision of words, without the necessity of adding to or modifying the wording of what remained, and (it) its of the instrument or the balance of

removal did not after the character rights and obligations contained in it: Chemidus Wavin Ltd v Société pour lu Transformation l'Exploitation des Resines consent.
Industrielles SA (1978) 3 CMLR, lithecopo5141: Alex Love Lebrages I III
Total Oil (Great: Brunin) Lie 1850
(1988) 1 WLR 173) and Sadler v struct in an

Imperial Life Assurance Co of action to w Canada Ltd (1988) IRLR 388, 392). consented.

in a rational system of juris-prudence, one would not expect the corresponding principles of equity to differ much. In both cases, what the courts were concerned with was the enforceability not of pieces of paper but of covenants and dispositions in pieces of paper which might contain more than

It was, moreover, worth pointing out that the common law principles had been developed mainly in the context of disputes about the enforceability of cov-enants in restraint of trade, a field in which the object of the law was broadly similar to that of equity in setting aside dispositions procured by undue influence, nat protect people perceived to be vulnerable from the consequences

of certain kinds of improvident In many cases the result of severing part of an instrument in that way would not be markedly different from that which followed from exercising the undoubted power of a court of equity to set aside on terms as to the restitution of benefits received under the transaction impugned, or to up-hold the transaction but restrain one party by injunction from

enforcing it in particular respects. To say that there could never be severance of an instrument affected by undue influence would be a remarkable triumph of form over It was fair to say that cases which called for the severance of parts of instruments affected by

undue influence were likely to be

rare, for the simple reason that a

misrepresentation vitiated effective

action to which

But the ordinary legal principles governing the severance of bar-gains was perfectly capable of His Lordship referred to Allied

Irish Bank plc v Byrne (Mr Justice Ferris, February 2, 1994, un-reported) and TSB Bank plc v Camfield (1995) 1 WLR 430). two cases in which the court took an all or nothing approach since to do otherwise would have effectively been to rewrite the contract. However, neither of those cases

was authority for the proposition that setting aside was invariably an all or nothing process even in a case where the objectionable fer tures of the document could readily be severed from the rest without rewriting it.

In his Lordship's judgment the side-letter of November 30, 1987 remained effective as to the first guarantee of September 18, 1986. notwithstanding that it could not stand as regarded the other guar-

The references to the three later guarantees were severable. They were not interdependent, either substantially or linguistically.

If Mrs Caplan had signed four side-letters on November 30, 1987. one for each guarantee, there would have been no difficulty in recognising that. What she actually did was no different in any

There was no reason why Mrs Capian's consent should not be regarded as having been freely given to one of them, about which she had apporently been properly advised, but not to the others about which she had not.

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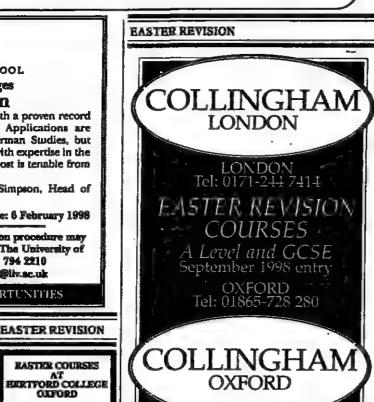
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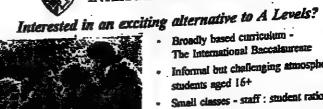
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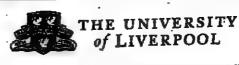
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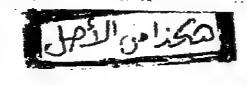
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Funher Povision is also design improve the skills of existing to the real and the media are challenged. the report to raise the profile of apart. pupils spreading the prome or a cont. Spreading stated that the will mineral in chair interpret

spontinered in sport increased spontages to participate. The spontages the family enclosed that their percent fathers. Television was also reparted. ^{'ध्र}ाभाग**ट**ं

The two types of teacher Why it took me 60

Tony Mooney

reports on

research into the

personalities found in the

classroom

official figures confirming that 21,300 teachers quit their jobs in the first nine months of this year, there is every indication that England's education system is heading for a staffing crisis.

This bad news is compounded by figures released by the Graduate Teacher Training Registry, which show that there is a 10 per cent fall in the number of people applying for teacher-training courses. This fall may in part be due to the £1,000 tuition fee levy from next September. However, it is more likely to be a result of the negative publicity that teachers and schools have received over the past decade.

Given this background, there is every reason to hope that the Government's £1.5 million advertising campaign to persuade people to choose teaching as a career will quickly bear fruit.

However, there is a suspicion that asking famous people to talk about their favourite teacher under the headline "No one forgets a good teacher is strong on razzmatazz buł weak on indicating what personal characteristics might make someone suitable for teaching. There is no personal Hentifier that makes a member of the audience sit up and say "that could

Are there ally particular character types that the recruitment campaign could have highlighted Do teachers have particular traits that attract them to the classroom? According to he research from America, eachers appear to belong p two main personality types which are related to the agerange of the children they optio teach. The

results of the work tend to

reinforce the lond-held preiu-

dice that the bette minds tend irate lowards secondar education where hey will be more intellectually challenged. The research vas carried out by Susan Seas and John Kennedy, of the Ohio State University Depirtment of Educational Servies, and was reported in The Journal of Educational Research. The work identified the personality

rypes of 886 students who obtained teaching degrees at the university in he Eighties. The personality profiles of the would-be telchers were

had completed a standard Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) report. The underlying psychology of the MBTI owes much to Carl Jung's belief that "random variation in human beings is actually quite orderly and consistent, being due to certain basic differences in the way people prefer to use perception and judgment". The report consisted of 188 forced-choice questions that were computer analysed, and was based on four dichotomous personality dimensions. The four opposites involved were: extraversion (E) vs introversion (I): intuition (N) vs sensing (S);

thinking (I) vs feeling (F); perception (P) vs judging (J). Two distinct personality types emerged. The sensing, feeling and judging (SFJ) ones became primary school teachers and the intuition, thinking and judging (NTJ) types mitowards secondary

The primary teachers who showed sensing character traits fully exercise their five senses. They tend to perceive their surroundings in terms of what they can see, touch, hear, taste and smell. These individuals show an interest in what is real and factual and will emphasise fact over theory and reality over imagination. Other predominant characteristics are empathy and feeling

towards others. They are

adept at knowing what is important to others and at appreciating the sensitivities

of interpersonal relationships. Primary teachers tend to be warm, sociable, responsible and caring people who enjoy harmony and who trust their feelings. In addition, they work hard to master facts, are

The better minds migrate towards secondary education'

concrete in their approach to tasks, thrive on order and like to make schedules that they wili carefully follow.

Such people bring many strengths to the pru room. Their need for order allows them to make sense out of the many demands of teachers' time, which helps them to cope with having to teach a number of different subjects. Their interest in meeting the needs of others helps them to accept the

diverse personalities and problems of today's children. Despite their many attributes the primary school teachers with an SFJ profile are not likely to be the successful leaders of their profession.

These teachers, say the authors, "will not be leaders in the educational reform that many believe is needed to improve today's schools. They respect order, the concrete and the status quo. They are unlikely to be comfortable with the disorder, ambiguity and confusion that inevitably tend to be dogmatic or

Secondary school teachers

accompanies change"

are somewhat different. They tend to fit an NTJ profile. They are likely to approach their work in a more theoretical way and are much more disposed to investigate relationships and possibilities through insight or intuition. They are drawn to complexity, innovation and change. Of secondary teachers, with NTJ profiles, the authors say: Their intuitive and thinking nature, which inspires them to seek solutions to complex problems, intimates that they possess greater potential to tion and reform. In short, NTJs appear to be the best source of leadership among

to reform education." Both primary and secondary teachers show a judging (J) type of personality. They are interested in long-range planning and prefer to have things decided and settled. This is probably why so many have become disgruntled with the continuous change in our edu-

Will High

practising teachers for efforts

sible and dependable and this appear high on the list of those polls that ask the public to rate the trustworthiness of the various professions. However, the more rigid judging types do

authoritarian. The initial thrust of the Government's advertising campaign to recruit teachers has failed to indicate what a member of the audience might possess, which could be put to

use in teaching. We all need to be needed and we all have our own ideas about what our personalities are like. What the campaign is failing to do is to massage the egos of the people it is trying to attract. Perhaps Ohio State University should be asked to help with future advertising, The author is head teacher of a South London comprehensive.

years to graduate

Octogenarian graduate Hilda Whiting finds that

students are the same whether they are 18 or 81

learn that there is a scarcity of octogenarian graduates? There must be, or I would not have been regally treated at my recent

My degree was delayed because of the Depression, when everything had to be paid for but there was no money, so I set off for France to learn French. if England was poor, France was des-perate but I got tuition in exchange for work. War broke out and I returned to join the Women's Royal Naval Service, which occupied the next six years.

Then, various careers and responsibilities kept the degree on indefinite hold. Eventually, illness and bereavement made a new purpose imperative and Digby Stuart College, part of Rochampton Institute in Surrey, accepted me as a

mature humanities student. Mature students have disadvantages. Mine was being allocated a pigeonhole at ground level. When I bent down, my glasses fell off and I couldn't see the number. Another was finding the right room. The module system scatters students so most only know where they are bound for and it was never the same destination as mine.

However, I found my way around and even survived registration; this is efficiently run but taxing and only ends with the issue of library ticket and student card. Students wear jeans and look bright; I never achieved this. l don't wear jeans but I do have my own brand of scruff, as a student's work is second only to a miner's in dirt. It comes from paper and books, giving that distinctive education aroma.

Other smells were evoked by history modules, such as no drains patched, clothes, beer, bread and the sweaty, frantic search for the cause of the Black Death. Could it be earthquakes or clergy gad-

ding about?
We students rejoiced, too. when essays and disserta-tions were finally handed in. I was often asked how I got on with other students. We were all students together, even the tutors, and I loved them all.

never a threat. In private, I accused my tutor, a lovely man, of subverting the young. In reprisal, he set me to work on 19th-century prostitution.

Maturity meant that I was

This gets a bad press and I set out to refute it. It was really not too difficult once you realise that all the sources were biased.

Once registered, motivation continues, helped in my case by urging my middle-aged children not to worry all the students, and probably the tutors, too.

The tutors on the whole. were fun and field trips a treat. The only physical strain was all that sitting. In the second year I learnt to swim and that solved the problem. The Slow Lane Club also provided an education, while catching its breath. Topics discussed in-cluded medieval law, archaeology. Odes of Horace. music and, of course, the

temperature of the water. The temperature at my college was warm and welcoming, so if your gap years run on, don't be daunted. Just choose your favourite subject and register, remembering to ask for a pigeonhole high up if you wear glasses. I am now, at the age of 81, enjoying another gap year, which may go on for some time, while I choose a subject from the many tempting ones on offer.



Hilda Whiting: maturity meant she was never a threat

Report hows that competitive physical exercise is in demand by pupils Top marks for school sport

hildren ared between five and II are no couch potatoes, according ✓ to the largest survey made of

primary pupils' porting activities.
It emerged that four fifths of the 3,500 children interviewed by the Welsh Sports Council for Pripe Time For Sport, to be published later his month, were enthusiastic about spert, three quarters liked competitive spot, and many belonged to sports clubs ouside school hours. Only 2 per cent said that they did not like sport. and 8 per cent sated that they did not like

competitive ganes.

"These findings are encouraging." Dr
Huw Jones, director of policy planning for the Welsh ports Council, says. The children are saying if you create sporting opportunities for us. we will come in

Delivering such opportunities is not always easy. For, as the report shows. there are conjuning problems with the provision of rimary school PE. Inadeate training means that teachers particularly women -- can lack confi-dence in teaching the subject.

We are arging the Government to increase the sme allocated to PE in initial teacher-training courses," Dr Jones says. "Some teachers received as little as eight hours during their entire course. That is worrying, not only because insufficient knowledge s imparted. Mainly, our fears are on safety grounds. "Safety is an important issue in PE,

unlike classroom-based subjects such as English or history. So we want to make sure that primary teachers are adequately trained to leach PE informatively and

Further provision is also demanded to improve the skills of existing teachers. Parents and the media are challenged by the report toraise the profile of sport. The pupils questioned stated that their par-ents' interes in sport increased their willingness to participate. The overall sportiness of the family environment encouraged them to enjoy those sports that their pirents - particularly their fathers - supported. Television was also regarded as a

Girls' sports, such as netball, are neglected in favour of boys' activities means of strengthening their sporting interests by highlighting role models. But a distinct gender gap opened as pupils noted their favourite sports stars. In a list headed by Ryan Giggs and Eric Cantona, none of the top ten were women. Only 1

The survey's results will be used by the

Welsh Sports Council to develop its millennium strategy for encouraging PE in schools. It is considering directing some of its National Lottery funding towards teacher training. But its lottery budget is being cut from £15 million to per cent of the children and just 2 per cent E12 million next year. That means voluntary clubs will suffer as priority is of girls mentioned the leading sports woman. Sally Gunnell. given to schools.

This finding is the result of the media's That is a concern for the Sports Council preoccupation with male sports such as because its objective is to maintain football and rugby, the Sports Council primary pupils' interest in sport into the believes. The media must give a higher secondary schools and then, through priority to women's sports," Dr Jones clubs and community projects, into adult life. It is well on the way to achieving that says. That way schools will also raise challenge, however, as 58 per cent of the their profile. You often hear teachers children questioned stated that they praising the efforts of their school's rugby or football teams. But the hockey and netball teams are way down the list." already belong to sports clubs.

IOLA SMITH

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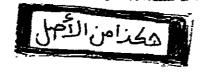
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'Chris is the best presenter in Britain. He has the chance to build a major company'

Richard Branson has thrown in his radio lot with the maverick Chris Evans. Why? Interview by Raymond Snoddy

ntil now, at least, Richard Branson's failure to circumnavigate the world in a hot-air bulloon has been more than matched by the need to establish himself as a serious media player even though he has wanted to do both things almost as

This week there was more obvious success with the media than the ballooning as the ever-smiling tycoon with the genius for personal marketing, often at the risk of his own neck, spurned the "respectable" gentlemen of Capital Radio and took the "courageous" decision to throw in his lot with Chris Evans, the

Basically, the maverick side of me went for this option," Branson explained from Marrakesh a few minutes before he had the painful experience of watching the balloon a maverick flight of its own.

it was partly the fact

that all our stuff were

very keen on this as an option. Our management were very keen on this. The public who listen to Virgin Radio were very keen. And I found it more

It was almost certainly the sense of excitement that got him in the end. After all, he never did care much for the constricting, disciplined world of the

quoted company, either his own, or that of When I held the phone and heard the was absolutely certain I had made the right decision," says the man who has made a considerable success of Virgin

Atlantic but not quite yet managed to make all his trains run on time in his Virgin rail franchises. The reasons for throwing his radio interests in with Chris Evans and his Ginger Productions are clear and personal, even though the Ginger option is

probably worth closer to £83 million than Capital's 190 million, much of it in shares. "I like Chris a lot. He's the best radio presenter there is in Britain. He's bright. he's quick and he has the chance to build a

major company here," says Branson. The reasons given to Capital executives. who believed the deal was still going through, subject to the approval of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission and say-so of Margaret Beckett, President

of the Board of Trade, were very different. The hand-delivered letter cited delays and doubts caused by the MMC inquiry. which, in fact, has by now been completed, and suggested that perhaps there was

a danger that the Government would turn the deal down.

On any level the story of how Richard Branson chose to merge his main media interests with Chris Evans — and how Evans, the talented, though quirky, radio and television presenter became a media proprietor — is a remarkable one.

Earlier this year Evans was disillu-sioned with radio after his abrupt departure from Radio I and the row over working on Fridays.

He told friends he was not going to do radio any more. It was a holiday in Ireland that changed his mind. His interest in the personal power of radio talking as if one-to-one with an audience - was re-awakened by listening to Gerry Ryan, the Radio Ireland broadcaster

Evans came back and old his long-time agent, Michael Foster, who will now become chief executive of the television inerests of the Ginger Media Group, the new enlarged company, that radio again - but as a shareholder as well as a

resenter. His first stop was Talk Radio UK, the national commercial speech station. There was no early answer, so Evans moved on to the only other possible national station, Virgin - Classic FM was rightly not seen as an option.

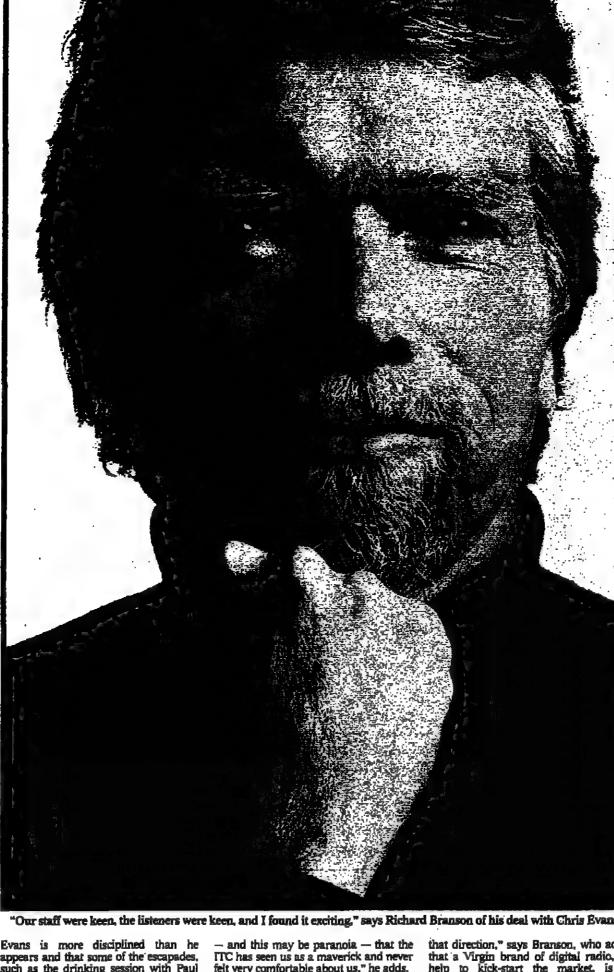
When Evans decided that he wanted to approach Branson to take over Virgin, Foster took over the mechanics of the deal. He called Simon Olswang, the media met by chance at a dinner party, Barbara Manfrey of Apax Partners. Branson's first response was a firm "No".

The critical moment came in October when Evans, armed with a single sheet of paper containing the headlines of the deal. telephoned Branson on his Caribbean island of Necker and charmed him into saying a definite maybe.

"Richard Branson took a gamble. He could have played safe but the maverick in him got quite excited," says Foster. It a commonplace to say that Evans and Branson are mavericks in the sense that

both are instinctively drawn to trying to overturn conventional wisdom, conventional structures. But there is also another similarity, important in business terms. They both know how to harness publicity for their own ends.

Years ago Branson was happy to confess that, although he obviously enjoyed the thrill of setting records, when he crossed the Atlantic by speedboat, publicity for Virgin Atlantic on the US networks was also in his mind. Foster insists that



"Our staff were keen, the listeners were keen, and I found it exciting," says Richard Branson of his deal with Chris Évans

appears and that some of the escapades, such as the drinking session with Paul ety, while at the same time provide amusing anecdotes for his many shows. "It's all considered. Everything is done for a purpose and to get the best margins," he

Certainly Branson feels very content with the outcome, which will give him 20 per cent of the enlarged Ginger Media Group to Evans's 50 per cent — 55 per cent when the founder's share of management shares are included. "We will be well protected. We will have two directors on the board and, apart from our stake in the company, we will now be involved in TV

production, too," he says. For years Virgin has been trying to get into television, and each time it has failed to get past the regulators in the shape of the Independent Television Commission - first the 1991 bids for three ITV franchises, and more recently the failure

to win the Channel 5 licence. "One of the problems we have had in the past is that we were in the middle of the airline battles when we were doing the television licence applications. I also think

felt very comfortable about us," he adds. Branson now has high hopes for the future of Ginger, although he cautions against too high expectations at first.

possibly it can go farther than that. The group has a fair amount of debt so it should not be too overly ambitious in the short term." ranson believes that Virgin Radio should concentrate on

'It can obviously develop in television.'

he says. "It can develop in radio, and

attracting more listeners and advertising before, in time, going for more radio licences and teleision properties.

But the biggest development of all, and part of the reason why Richard Branson was looking for a deal with anyone -Ginger or Capital - was the move into digital radio. As an existing broadcaster Virgin will automatically get digital

frequencies next year.

"Virgin and Ginger are committed to being part of the digital revolution and will be investing the amount of money that is necessary to push us forward in

that direction," says Branson, who adds that a Virgin brand of digital radio, to help to kick-start the market, is a

The Radio Authority will, under complicated government rules, advertise digital frequencies in March, with Ginger guaranteed frequencies to run a national station of near-CD quality sound. Up to 80 per cent of the programming can be the same as the conventional service. There is also a big long-term opportunity that Ginger will be able to compete for a second national digital licence, although it would have to pass the Authority's 'diversity" test.

In striking the deal with Evans, the Virgin founder may also have found the template for simplifying other parts of his sprawling empire - particularly if there is not enough money to develop

everything.
With Virgin Radio, Branson explains that the deal is virtually a management buyout rather than selling outside.
The UK's best-known entrepreneur and balloonist says: "If we ever do things like this with Virgin companies, I think as

much as we can do on a management-

staff buyout, the better."

Keen to fall into the Net

A new survey finds that technology is firing the public's imagination

he British really, really want to be able to take advantage of technology, according to the final results from what is probably the largest British survey on the future of communications, to be published on Monday (see column.

page 44). No fewer than 323,727 people took the time to fill in detailed questionnaires on what people expected from communications technology in a survey carried out by Cable &

the largest cable company.

More than 50 per cent said they intended to get an Internet connection at some time in the future and 22 per cent said they already had one

Some 86 per cent would like to be able to select films from their own television set rather than having to go out to a video shop - a facility already available on a limited basis from satellite and one that will be provided on digital cable and satel-lite from next year, while 78 per cent said they would like their own onscreen television guide to select their

favourite programmes.
"One of the things that came across very strongly [in the survey] is the level of interest people have in technology and their willingness to think about new applications," says Helen Burt, acting director of marketing at CWC.

The survey was designed to help CWC to decide which areas to focus on, and already it has lad an effect. One of the things to come through inthe early responses was how keen people were to know what a longdistance telephone call was likely to cost before making if The finding encouraged the CWC lo push ahead with the launch of a 10p muximum charge for weekend alls anywhere in the UK at weekends.

"It has been very attractive, and people have been aking up the service. The concept of capped calls is something we need to explore further," says Ms But.

Some 56 per cent of respondents would like a telephone with different ringing tones to ilentify who the call is for, while 44 pc cent would be interested in a video phone at home.

early half of the responfamilies and singles, would like to shop from hene, and 62 per cent would like to frowse through, their living rooms.

respondents said they would like to have online libraies to obtain instant answers to ducational and general interest quetions, while 73 per cent would like o be able to see live pictures of their bomes and holiday destination before they book a break.

Ms Burt believes her challenge will be to package communications services to consumer in simple and relevant ways, and tile television set seems to be the key to that. Many people say that is the way they would like to gain access to the Internet.

A woman whose nother is deaf had another nove suggestion:
"Wouldn't it be great if, when a
telephone call camein, you could
have the conversation through the TV set?" This is just one of many ideas that CWC says it will be looking into.

RAYMONE SNODDY

Young Family man could be just what Albert Square needs

SEASONAL cheer for EastEnders. The cast's grotty dressing rooms at run-down Elstree Studios are to be renovated — though work will, naturally, stop short of the Albert Square set.

Also taking a close interest will be Malcolm Young, the personable new head of drama series, hand-picked by BBCI controller Peter Salmon. Young joins next week after overseeing Family Affairs, Channel 5's soap. Young has decided to station himself at EastEnders for a spell, to integrate it more closely into his department. So what's the plot? Less than is months ago,

Young, as Brookside's producer - responsible for that censored brother and sister incest scene -- was comparatively unknown, overshadowed by his boss. Philip Redmond. Then he moved to London to lead Pearson Television's drama, which has taken over Grundy, producer of Neighbours. Family Affairs, the UK's only daily soap, is produced according to Grundy's Aussie clockwork methods: industrial precision and low cost.

Young, who is also overseeing Casualty, would thus be



new efficiencies and drum up a fourth EastEnders episode to challenge Coronation Street, should BBCI's ratings drop. He also wants top EastEnders talent to spread out into other BBC dramas, like Granada's former soap writers Kay Mellor (Band of Gold) and Brookside's Jimmy McGovern have.

Meanwhile. Richard Langridge, executive producer of children's programmes at the BBC, and the head of children's programmes, Lorraine Heggessey, are plotting a teenage soap to take on Hollyoaks. Only one probwell qualified to introduce lem: Mark Thompson, con-

troller of BBC2, hasn't the money to commission one.

■ WILL Chris Evans get to the church on time? Nicky Campbell, the ex-Radio | DJ now presenting Radio 5 Live's morning magazine, is getting married in London tomorrow to newsreader Tina Ritchie. Evans is guest of honour. Tina, who worked with Evans on his Radio I show, followed the ginger one to Virgin Radio when he took over the breakfast slot as a prelude to buttering up Richard Branson and buying the station (contrary to reports, the spurned Capital's board was day's decision). Campbell, whose phone-ins are credited with raising morning ratings at Radio 5 Live by up to 30 per cent, is even tipped as a potential BBC TV news-reader. Not bad for a man who until recently also hosted ITV's Wheel of Fortune.

MORE on the BBC's review of why audiences are switching off its news. In classic tortoise style, it is to conduct two more months of debate about what kind of news programmes are needed. Martyn Lewis is certain that his brand of "good news" on The Six O'Clock News is in favour. But a shake-out of older presenters (watch out Peter Sissons, Michael Buerk) is on the cards. The problem is the under-35s, and whether instead of upheaval there should be a variety of BBC news programmes. It is possible BBC2 could start its own nightly news programme, and push back Newsnight to Ilpm. My tip to serious Birtists: if you want to see what interests younger viewers, watch Newsround on BBC children's TV.

THE Daily Mail launched its latest offer to readers last



Saturday: "Win free ironing to the year 2000." Was it serious? Desmond Nichols. director of promotions for Associated Newspapers, says: "Yes. We sat down and asked what problems would our readers like taken out of their lives? Ironing's the least popular chore. And it is totally in step with Middle England." It is also in step with the



ment of 1997. It began with The Times's Eurostar offer last year, which sent some 150,000 off to Paris, while the Mail began a half-price Sketchley cleaning offer, half a million dirty items immediately crossed the counter, and it was extended to The Standard (all those readers sitting trapped in grubby tubes). "In the 1980s, people were

increased sophistication of

readers' offers, the under-

reported newspaper develop-

much more aspirational. Now they like practical services. Our aim is to be part of the household, a reader's friend," says Nichols. Last Sunday, I stood in the Habitat queue brandishing my 20 per cent discount card offered by The Times. I was flanked by customers doing exactly the same thing. Those who (wrongly) predict the death of newspapers forget how hard they fight — on all fronts.

CHRISTOPHER SMITH, the Culture, Media and Sports Secretary, has just appointed a panel of worthes to advise whether more sports events — such as the RyderCup and top rugby fixtures — should be saved for mains ream "free" television and added to the protected "list", keeping them off pay television. But Brian Downing, head of the marketing committee of the England and Wales Cricket loard (ECB) whose home Test matches are listed, is furious over the panel's implicit bias which could leave cricket standed with just one cheeseparing buyer, the BBC. "We are arguing thaf we must be de listed," he said. The ECB is offering just one national event, the Test match at Lord's, for the new list. I foresee months of frenzied lobbying from sporting bodies in foresee months of frenzied lobbying from sporting bodies in the months ahead. It's just not cricket and it's not just cricket.

Animated Christmas

■ DANIEL GREAVES is the British Oscar-winning cartoonist behind the special BBC2 Christmas Eve event, Flatworld. Spikier and darker than Wallace & Gromit, there are no tactile clay models: just flat, two-dimensional cardboard characters. Greaves is as gloomy as the Broadcasting Standards Commission about the spread of cartoons across children's television: his offering ends with the hero screwing up his remote control and getting on with his life.



Original work: Ilatworld

(budget E750,000) for four years did not want to watch Alas, his daughter Ella, 6, after living with Flatworld est fan, says Greeves. this indisputable original. product. "She's not my great-

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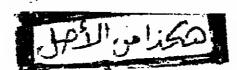
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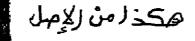
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Why news is bleak without young readers

aturday: a lunch in Oxford with two final-year arts students. They are articulate and bright, work hard and enjoy music and novels. But they hardly ever watch television and buy newspapers only on an occasional Sunday as an

Sunday: another lunch with an 18-year-old on her "gap" year and aiming for medical school. She is only now starting to buy newspapers and says she has found one she enjoys. I lean forward in anticipation. It's The Independent." She concedes that

The Times is the best paper for news.

Monday: read The Guardian. Newspapers have become ugly, irrelevant, passive, dull and pompous, says American media expert Jon Katz, who writes for HotWired. They are being attacked by the deadly virus of Raging Old Fartism: Filled with warring spokesmen, timorous warnings about pornography and other dangers, and disapproving harrumphing about the decline of civilisation, papers have

become the clucking old maids of the digital age." They should throw out their news sections - they

aren't in the news business any more - and make the

first priority to get young readers back. Tuesday: study the Audit Bureau of Circulation's report for November: sales of national daily and Sunday tabloids last month were down by more than 300,000 on

a year ago.

Wednesday: study the progress of the revamped Independent. On the front page almost twice as much space is devoted to Richard Branson and his balloon than to the Government's reform of the National Health Service (as in all four broadsheets). There is one other story (about surfball) and signals to five others, among them "Teletubbies misery". Sheryl Crow and "Hot clothes for cool kids".

Among the dominant Items on inside pages are the Two Fat Ladies, Chris Evans, Agony Atkins and her daughter, and sex-booze and heroin addiction. Other pages are devoted totally to the Kyoto summit, health and the battle for jobs.

Thursday: study Daily Mail. The front page bills Fay Weldon — "Why we feminists risk destroying today's men", an article first published in The Guardian. One of its main features inside is headlined "An Oasis of vulgarity" and attacks the pop group's bad

As editors and marketeers brood on how to stop declining newspaper sales and attract young readers, they are bombarded by such gobbets of anecdote, research from focus groups, sales reports, studies of their rivals, and the gratuitous views of pundits who think they know better.

The difficulty is making sense of what the pundits say — which followed, which ignored? Yet the survival of some newspapers in the next century depends on making the right judgments now, as hundreds of

millions of pounds are invested in them. It was Mr Katz who provoked most interest among my colleagues this week. Throw out news sections? He has a point, Editors could not ignore the snatching of new-born baby Karli last Friday night. Even all the broadsheets led on the story. Yet she was safe by the time the papers were on sale. The "news" was out of date.

Only a very brave editor would decide to dispense with "news" on the front page of a "news" paper. That editor in 1997 has been Andrew Marr

of The Independent, who has opted deliberately to display one big picture and one or two

page. By concentrating on only a few stories and targeting a young audience, The Independent is pursuing the Katz agenda. Against The Independent, the main

candidate for the ROF award - disapproving harrumphing, the decline of civilisation, warnings about pornography — has to be the Daily Mail. According to Katz, it must

Yet what do the sales figures show for the past year? Sales of the Daily Mail are up by almost 150,000 but The Independent is down by 4,000. That does not mean that Marr's strategy is necessarily wrong: The Independent is under-funded and working from a position of weakness rather than strength. If he is given time, history is probably on Marr's side — and other broadsheet editors are proceeding more cautiously in the same direction and tilting some would say dumbing down — the mix of news. But it does demonstrate that editing and marketing newspapers is more complex than Katz can comprehend.

As for my 18-year-old lunch communion. she has suddenly discovered that when she wants to know what's happening in medicine or the health service, newspapers are a mine of information. So how do we present newspapers so that she buys one every day?

Our man with Havanas

Woodrow Wyatt than has already been said in the obituaries, remembrances and appreciations that have been published since his death on Sunday. For the bow tie, the omnipresent cigar, the drawl and the chuckle concealed more than they revealed.

To understand Woodrow, one has to appreciate him as a journalist, some-thing I came to do as I watched him craft his articles for the News of the World and The Times and learnt from the comments he so generously provid-

ed on my Sunday Times articles.

I always marvelled at Woodrow's ability to explain complicated issues in clear prose without in any way talking down to his audience. That skill, he once told me, came from studying Shakespeare, whose most memorable fines, said Woodrow, consisted of monosyllables: "To be or not to be ..."; 'What's in a name? That which we call

a rose, ...".
I shall always remember the Sunday morning when, having used my col-umn for a discourse on energy policy, I turned to "The Voice of Reason" to find the same subject covered more fully and understandably in half as many words. I remember, too, Woodrow's constant efforts to make certain that he had his facts right. To be an economist and to be exposed to his charm and enthusiasm was to become his willing research assistant - gathering economic data, data on trends in crime and other social phenomena, data on developments in the US that might illuminate a policy debate in the UK.

And I shall never forget the tough integrity that underlay his journalism. Like other tabloids and most of the broadsheets - the popular and unpopular press, as they have been called — the News of the World was editorially opposed to privacy laws, seeing them as a restraint on freedom of the press and a tool to protect the privileged from the scrutiny to which a free society is entitled to subject them. Woodrow disagreed -- and repeatedly said so in his column.

Enter a senior executive of the newspaper, acting - as far as I am aware --- without consulting the proprietor. He asked me to set up a meeting with Woodrow. The three of us gathered for lunch at Woodrow's house in St John's Wood, scene of so many wonderful dinners and so much robust political conversation (it was Woodrow's custom to excuse the ladies after dinner so that we chaos could puff our - his - cigars, sip brandy and settle the affairs of the world; Baroness Irwin Stelzer pays homage to Woodrow Wyatt, who offered friends wisdom and tolerance as well as fine wine and cigars



Woodrow Wyatt: he insisted that smoking improved health

Thatcher was an exception, having been declared "an honorary man" by

The executive laid out the case against a privacy law - in terms of its probably commercial impact on the circulation and financial health of the tabloids, and implied corporate displeasure with Woodrow's position, which he suggested would henceforth

be edited out of the "Voice of Reason". I knew that this would be a lunch to remember: Woodrow had, after all. surrendered a promising political career to maintain a principle - that privatisation of the steel industry made no sense, Labour Party dogma notwithstanding. This when Tony Blair was still in rompers and new Labour was not even a gleam in anyone's eye.

Woodrow began by saying that by bility for its contents. He pointed out that the proprietor, who was opposed to privacy laws because of the protec-tion they afforded malefactors, had never told him what to say in his columns, and never would. If the executive had any doubts about the proprietor's attitude towards Woodrow, he was invited to call Mr Murdoch to seek enlightenment. To the best of my knowledge, that call was

Woodrow was often wrong. To the end of his days he insisted that cigarette smoking improved health. And, in my view, he was wrong on the question of privacy. But then, I am an American, accustomed to the protec-tion that the First Amendment to our Constitution grants to the press. But. right or wrong, he stood by his principles, in the face of ridicule by his enemies, threats from those who thought they were in control of his financial circumstances and urgings by his friends to please, please, be

The amazing thing is that his devotion to what he thought was right was not accompanied by the intolerance or meanness of spirit often found in those who think they know right from wrong. On many a Sunday morning my telephone would ring and a cheery "Woodrow here" preceded a gentle critique of something I had written in my column, a critique that was devoid of malice and invariably sound.

For Woodrow was as generous with his time and advice as he was with his claret and cigars (I still have some of the precious pre-Castro Havanas he shared with mej. And he was recklessly so. The famous picture on the front page of this paper, showing Woodrow and Norman Lamont en route to the House of Commons for the Chancellor's attack on the Prime Minister, after John Major had sacked him, put Woodrow's reappointment as Tote chairman at risk. But the choice between a friend about to lose office and a still-powerful Prime Minister was an easy one for Woodrow, even if it meant losing a job he truly loved. Journalism is immeasurably poorer

without him, as are those of us who were fortunate enough to sit at his table and at his feet.

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From left: bilingual Julia Valet could lose out to the likes of Yorkshireman Paul Tonkinson; Ella White, who is German, will broadcast in German

Culture change at MTV

would not appeal to any of MTV's

European markets, and he looks too

much like an ageing eco-warrier to be

the chief executive of a supposedly

trendy TV channel. Any feelings of

alienation will not have been eased by

his decision to make 80 redundancies

in London as part of MTV's regionali-

sation. However, 150 jobs will be

out of the way before you make the sexy

decisions," Mr Hansen explains.

fast as us, that's why I made all these

organisational changes, to get ahead."

interactive channel, to be launched

next year, will be held back by

technology at first: "It will be as

interactive as we can make the technol-

He also believes that digital tele-

vision will not be welcomed by the

public initially, even though it will give

MTV — available only from statellite

or cable - a wider potential audience.

"In the end there is going to be far too

Technology is not going to move as

He admits that MTV's new M2

You have to get the tough decisions

created elsewhere.

hanging the accents of pre-senters seems a rather facile way for a television channel to confront the threat of digital technology. It seems especially odd that MTV, a station famed for hiring Euro-babe presenters with broken English accents, now wants them to sound like characters from Corona-

Yet this is the plan being developed by Brent Hansen, who joined the music channel as president and chief executive almost a year ago. But it would be unwise to underestimate Mr Hansen's tactics because behind the change of accents is a fundamental change in MTV's culture.

Since its launch ten years ago, MTV Europe has broadcast only from London, and its strong European flavour - especially the accents - was to help it to sell on the Continent. Mr Hansen has set about splitting the station into four parts, each with its own target audience: the UK, and central, southern and northern Europe. As digital technology develops, even more channels will appear.

Bilingual presenters such as Julia Valet could soon find themselves out of a job in the UK, as the likes of Paul Tonkinson - who has a strong

MTV's Eurobabes may be swapped for Yorkshiremen. Chris Ayres reports

give the station regional appeal. Mean- an outsider. His New Zealand accent while, presenters such as Ella White, who is German, will give continental audiences the chance to view pro-

grammes in their own language.
"The European element of what we do is less attractive to people in the UK than, say, in Italy," says Mr Hansen. "I think you'll soon start to hear a lot more Geordie, Glaswegian, Brummie and West Country accents."

Mr Hansen believes that regionalisation is the key to success for MTV Europe in the digital age. "The bigger and less flexible you are, the more complicated life is going to become. We haven't decided how many channels we'll have, but we want to focus on each of our major markets." These markets will soon include Holland, Scandinavia and Eastern Europe.

"We can't just sit in London and broadcast everywhere any more. We want to give each channel a free decision-making process in terms of how it runs the company. It can be as international or as focused locally as it feels it needs to be."

He could be forgiven for feeling like

much choice," he says bluntly. "It will hit some of the big terrestrial players more than people like us, who are very niche. We need to make sure our brand is as strong as possible. Look at the difficulty there is in even

etting people to adapt to technology. It's not like the digital future is what everyone's gagging for. It will result in a complicated choice."

Mr Hansen is a fan of the Internet but admits that he can get frustrated with computers. The Internet is relatively unsophisticated in its delivery, and it's very slow," he says. However, MTV is considering joint ventures with both telephone companies and online retailers.

Mr Hansen says digital technology will not only give MTV the chance to provide regional services and Internet link-ups, but also to launch more specialised channels such as VH-I, which broadcasts middle-of-the-road rock music. However, it will also expose it to intense competition from companies such as Emap and Virgin.

His plan for survival is simple: "We have the technology to keep subdividing until we get 25 to 30 channels, but the risk is getting 0 per cent of nothing. The idea is not to be overcome by your ability to make choices but to make sure you're making the right choices."

Breaking barriers rather than pipes

y rights, cable television should have been dead and buried by now. Ten or so years ago, cable entrepreneurs wrung their hands in mock gloom and agreed it was a terrible shame, but organisations such as the BBC simply would not - could not - survive the onslaught of multichannel television.

Instead the cable companies burst a few water pipes, killed a lot of trees, set new low standards for customer care and service. and demonstrated how not to sell a new product to the nation. Nor were the programmes good enough.

Now a turning point of sorts has been reached. The latest official figures show that the cable industry has just had its best quarter and that by early October more than 3.25 million homes were subscribing to at least one cable service - television or telecommunications. The numbers still seem modest when compared with the 22 million or so homes in the UK but are remarkable to anyone who watched the

of the first experimental ca-ble systems in places such as Westminster and Aberdeen it took the cable industry 14 years to reach

one million homes. The last, most recent, million took just 14 months to accumulate, The old deregulatory dream of using cable as at least one of the battering rams to introduce competition into the UK telecommunications market is also coming to pass at last. In the past quarter the total number of telephone lines installed by the cable

operators broke the three-million barrier. Bob Frost, chief executive of the Cable Communications Association (CCA), the trade body for an industry unused to good news, this week was moved to predict that by 2000 a further three million homes could be added to the cable-subscribing universe.

A number of small signs indicate that things might at last be moving in the right direction. A law suit launched by Channel I, the cable news channel owned by Associated Newspapers, against Cable & Wireless Communications (CWC), has been settled. The row over whether Channel 1 should be included in the smallest basic package of channels seemed an obscure one, but actually went to the heart of how cable is sold to the public. All the cable companies agreed to guarantee Channel I's revenue in line with its contract, while they in turn were given the right to exclude Channel I from the cheap starter packages that most cable tional tool.

More and more companies now believe that the way to sell cable is to offer a basic package of five or six television channels plus a telephone line for something like E8.99 a month. Then, when people are cabled up, they can be sold other packages such as movie or sport channels.

Another positive sign came from the final findings of CWC's enormous survey, which produced more than 320,000 responses. The results showed considerable interest in new services such as the ability to choose individual films from the belevision set rather than having to go to a video store. Viewers also expressed considerable interest in having their own on-screen television guide in order to select their favourite programmes - these are just the sort of things that digital cable should be able to provide from next year.

. But there is still plenty of room for scepticism. Cable has always made overambitious claims about its likely

Ravmond

progress and failed to deliver. At least one measure in the the Indepen-

dent Television Commission - the cable television penetration rate - remains stubbornly stuck at just under 22 per cent. The penetration rate is the proportion of those subscribing compared with those who could have cable if they wanted to. Put another way, in areas where cable networks are built, just over 78 per cent of consumers have so far, on average, chosen not to take cable

For the sake of argument, let's a that the current euphoria at the OCA is justified, and that cable is indeed installed in more than six million bomes by the turn of the century. In that case, the outlook for the industry and the companies in it would be

The share prices - which are corrently languishing — of most of the companies would have to be marked upwards. Cable's hand would also be greatly strengthened in the often acrimonious relationship with BSkyB, the industry's main programme supplier and a venture in which News International, the parent company of The Times, holds a 40 per cent stalce.

Cable might even be in a viable position to compete in the market for exclusive film and sports rights if it chose. But above all it would, at long last, become a busines

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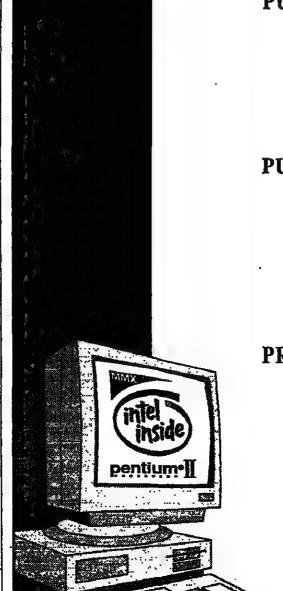
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Pick and click on

Online ohn Birt, Director-General of the BBC, is nothing if not ambitious for the corporation's venture on to the Internet. He even predicted recently that the BBC would have the best Web site in Europe within 12 months.

BBC's

On Monday, the man charged with realising Mr Birt's Internet ambitions, Edward Briffa, the former editor of Tomorrow's World. is due to launch his latest BBC.com offerings.

The BBC Online news service has been in place since last month and PC users are already looking at 600,000 pages a day — a figure that rose to one million when the Louise Woodward verdict was

On Monday, BBC Online launches its Ticker service electronic ticker-tape information featuring the latest news scrolling continuously across the top of the computer screen. Any time you see a BBC story you like, you just click on it and there it is. When you have read it you go straight back to your piece of work," says Mr Briffa, who has to co-ordinate all the BBC's online activities those on BBC.com that are paid for by licence fees and those on Beeb.com, a joint venture with ICL.

Next week will also see the launch of a BBC homepage and a channel which Mr Briffa describes as "fast food" a digest of everything that is going on for those with a few

The aim is to ensure that users will be supplied with individual, regular news items — such as the weather in a particular city, traffic conditions on a local road or a portfolio of stock prices.

As part of the licence-fee funded offering, there are also plans to develop, within the next few months, sites for everything from Crimewatch and Gardeners' Question Time to Alive and Kicking.



Briffa: online co-ordinator

Desert Island Discs and Pick of the Week.

The hope is that communities of interest can be created and that audience-to-audience communication, something that radio and TV do badly. will turn out to be one of the strengths of BBC Online. "My ambition is to make

the BBC home for the British Internet audience. It should be the site they go to first and from where their exploration of the Internet is conducted." says Mr Briffa.

But why should the BBC, as a public service broadcaster, he involved in providing Internet services? Considerthle sums of licence fee money is involved - up to 1 per cent of the licence fee, about £18 million a year.

There is also a strong feeling in the BBC that it must have a presence on the Internet if it is not going to lose touch with a new computer-literate generation, who, if not actually sceptical about the BBC's future role, might need persuading. Research shows that 20 per cent of the current BBC Online audience are students, 30 per cent are at work and 50 per cent at home.

Beeb.com concentrates on entertainment titles such as The Comedy Zone and RT Guide. An electronic version of Radio Times, it has now passed two million "page impressions" a month.

BBC Online hopes to provide specialist services for students - an electronic. minute-by-minute clearing house for university places or job opportunities are examples, it will also be possible, Mr Briffa adds, to create "a universe for children in which they are content to play".

In the summer there will be a public consultation to see what the Corporation is doing well and whether it is in the right territory or not. "It's on that basis that the BBC's commitment to Online will be decided." says Mr Briffa.

RAYMOND SNODDY | say, the Olympics. For adver-

Punch gets back into the ring

This autumn something unexpected crises Al Fayed and Spike fell-happened. The re-vived Punch magazine, which was supposed to be starting its second death rattle about now, began to get a bit better. Or at least, it is being talked about. And although one swallow does not a summer make, there is some evidence that Mr Punch. under the guiding hand of newish Editor James Steen, 32, has reinvented himself.

He's not a tasteful chap; he's gone back to bruising basics. And there is trouble, too, but the right sort of trouble, in the form of libel threats from the high and mighty, with Vis-count Rothermere and lawyer Peter Carter-Ruck first in the

"It's much sharper, Steen's surprised everyone, says Tim Satchell, founder of the monthly Insider magazine.
When Mohamed Al Fayed paid £500,000 for the defunct

magazine title Punch nearly two years ago, the media industry was stunned.

He then proceeded to lose more than £7.2 million as his chosen middle-aged editorial executives — who were collected from the most expensive end of the newspaper business, but with no experience in moulding paid-for magazines - attempted an extravagant resurrection for September.

Newsagents were flooded, freelance writers rejoiced at the extravagant fees, but the public was left stone cold by Editor Peter McKay's odd attempt to devise a cross between The Spectator and the old bumbly Punch. It was neither witty enough nor com-pelling. McKay swiftly switched back to his forte as a columnist.

"It was vanity publishing," says Steen - son of photographer David Steen and journalist Shirley Flack --dismissively. "Mohamed never wanted the old Punch. He wanted an investigative edge

Stewart Steven, former Editor of The Mail on Sunday and the Evening Standard, stepped in, only to depart too. Then, last April, American writer Paul Spike steered it towards the current new identity. Mr Punch became a Lad. Out went the codgers. But

after six months and more

Steen, his deputy, who had moved to Punch from the salacious celebrity magazine Here! (dubbed Hello! meets The Sun), enthusiastically seized the moment.

In what looked like a last desperate throw, Punch, by then selling only 15,000 copies instead of the lofty 150,000 or so originally talked about, switched down a gear and since September has been published fortnightly, on the alternate weeks to Private Eye.

Steen, with only a few months in which to turn it round, held a lengthy meeting with advertisers, who told him bluntly that the magazine was

The magazine they thought would die is being talked about again. But how long before publisher Mohamed Al Fayed cuts his losses, asks Maggie Brown

the wall - but thrilled with attaining the "utmost privilege anyone can have: to become an editor. I'm obsessed with Punch 24 hours a day" - he decided to apply both the commercial lessons he had been tutored in at Here!, and an earlier training as a Fleet Street gossip columnist on Today (a story told to him about Viscount Linley being allegedly thrown out of a London public house led to a

£35,000 libel awa, 1). "I've been force...

unfocused. With his back to analyse what people buy, what makes them pick something up. It's celebrities, sex, gossip, things that they can't get elsewhere."

The magazine needed more "knocking" copy, he concluded. He began to target what he saw as the soft underbelly of Private Eve to woo 25 to 45year-old readers. (In recent issues he has published photographs, reprinted by The Times, of Flion Jenkins, William Hague's fiancée, when she was a brunette, and won a high-profile legal victory over

the former Guinness chief. Ernest Saunders.) But thinking that Private Eye is a sitting duck is hardly an original observation: Scallwag, The Digger and now The Insider have all had a go over the past decade but have not got very

Yet in the past four years the Eve's sales have been gently declining: the last audited figures were 179,000. Readers were bored with the old jokes: John Major's Diaries, and endless recitals of government sleaze - though in recent

months (unaudited) sales have recovered to 191,000 as new Labour's banana skins provide fresh themes. Steen also decided that

media stories shift copies, even though conventional newspaper wisdom says they don't. Where Private Eve has Street of Shame, his Punch has Reptile House, "Media stories have all the ingredients, conflict, glamour, "
This led directly to the

current undeniably controversial decision to rake over the tacky private life of the deceased Viscountess (Bubbles) Rothermere, who died five years ago.

Today sees part two of John McVicar's racy account of her taste for young men. "Pat liked a quickie", as told by ex-toyboy



Punch: fresh impetus

Ashley Roy. Steen jumped at the opportunity to publish. believing, rightly or wrongly. that Flect Street had been unwilling to write about the wife of such a powerful media

This issue also parades, under the hanner headline "Junk Mail", a letter from Viscount Rothermere's lawyers, protesting that the previous issue, with a mock-up of Lord Rothermere holding a copy of the Daily Mail, headlined "My Life with Bubbles". was a "complete forgery . . . a gross and extraordinary libel of our client"

This is old-fashioned Eye territory. No wonder copies of the offending arricle are quietly circulating around his empire at Northeliffe House, even while senior journalists say, with some merit, that it is a pointless, sad exposé.

o are we witnessing a robust rebirth of badtaste satire, investigation and crude muckraking? Well, the small team of 20 clinging on at Punch certainly possess energy. But Private Eye has 37 years of tradition behind it.

Over all of this presides Mohamed Al Fayed, the proprietor. He has employed Andrew Neil for one day a week to oversee his troublesome small media ventures. Some think that Al Faved would love to cut his losses by selling Punch — if only there were

Steen has a meeting once a week with Al Fayed: "My attitude is to put a smile on his face. He knows we're causing

But for how long?

The French say no to Budweiser

THE Government's dithering over tobacco sponsorship of sport was put into context this week by the decision of Anheuser-Busch, based in St Louis, Missouri, to give in to the French Government's ban

on alcohol advertising.

The decision, which has attracted surprisingly little press coverage, has sent shock waves around international advertising trade bodies, who failed to see it coming. It also gives the lie to the notion that the world is increasingly run by the marketing needs of

global corporations.

AB had paid \$20 million (£12 million) for its Budweiser brand to be one of 12 official sponsors of next year's World Cup. It had a category-exclusive deal. For this, among other privileges, it would be the sole beer to be allocated perimeter advertising in the stadium. It had reckoned - as

had Fifa - that this money would speak loudly, and the French would come to some kind of compromise that involved bending its law. AB thought it

might persuade the French to leave the perimeter boards blank and let the Budweiser logo be superimposed on the worldwide television transmission outside France via new technology known as virtual advertising

It was wrong. The French stood firm. AB then appealed over the Government's head, to the European Union. Here, the brewer ran into a new nightmare: EU lawyers, who this week decided to postpone by six months a decision on whether to support AB's appeal against the French legislation at the European Court of Justice.

In frustration, AB sold its perimeter rights for some \$10 million to Casio, the Japanese electronics group. (Budweiser will still be involved with the World Cup, and use the logo

next year). AB will be annoyed. It feels it has a right to advertise a legal product, and the male "Joe Sixpack" audience for the World Cup is far more suited to the Budweiser brand than.

tising bodies the implications are disturbing. After the belated decision to ban tobacco advertising and sponsorship, this failure to overturn a member state's local legislation is potentially very

The EU lawyers also put off making a decision on the German Government's curbs on customer loyalty programmes. And the Greeks have banned TV adverts for toys from 7am to 10pm.

The worry for the Advertising Association (AA) lobby group in Britain is that we have relatively liberal ad regulations in sectors such as toys. but are conservative when it comes to such things as nudity in ads. Many battles lie ahead.The AA had seen how tobacco ads were subject to endless EU horse-trading, and warned that drink would be next. However, it remained

confident that manufacturers

would have the stomach for a

fight. Now that the maker of

beer has given in, a dangerous

therefore in stark contrast to

the Labour Government's

U-turn over the tobacco issue.

Most observers had expected

the French to compromise because the forces of big

business would prove too

although the week's develop-

ments must be viewed as a

threat to future advertising

freedoms within the EU, there

is still something perversely

refreshing about Fifa and its

sponsors being taken by sur-

prise, and not having things

THE FRENCH are consis-

tently underrated by the An-

glo-American-dominated

advertising world. Mean-

while, in Europe their two

leading agency networks, Publicis and Euro RSCG,

all their own way.

They were wrong. And,

great (look at Formula One).

France's intransigence is

precedent has been set.

world's biggest-selling

have supplanted Britain's Cordiant and WPP and the American networks to become the region's largest.

Outside Europe they are much weaker, especially in the crucial US market. Euro RSCG has tried to solve this problem through acquisition, while Publicis, run by "the French Maurice" (Levy), has enjoyed an uneasy alliance with the giant True North, formerly FCB.

It is fair to say that Maurice Levy has almost as many fingers in various pies as Maurice Saatchi. What's more, the egos involved are of a scale unfamiliar to even the average adman - and that's saying something. Levy — who brokered Nes-

tlé's acquisition of Perrier and won the Perrier account soon afterwards - and True North do not get on, to put it mildly. They endured each other's

barely contained contempt because they needed representation in each other's region. This marriage

of convenience has broken down over the past two years. True North

tried to dissociate itself from Publicis and launched a friendly bid for the smaller Bozell network instead, Levy's response was typical. Last week True North was the target of a counter bid from Publicis, its largest shareholder, despite a warning from the giant SC Johnson client that such a move would be

unacceptable.
This week, a Chicago judge placed a temporary restraining order preventing Levy from scuppering the Bozell deal amid claim and counterclaim of illicit approaches to directors, burgled hotel rooms, papers stolen from waste-paper bins and teams of private detectives.

The affair makes Maurice Saatchi's ousting from Saatchi & Saatchi look tame. It proves the struggle to get out of the elephant's graveyard of global mid-sized players is becoming ever more desperate. And this particular battle will get nastier still. Stefano Hatfield is Editor of

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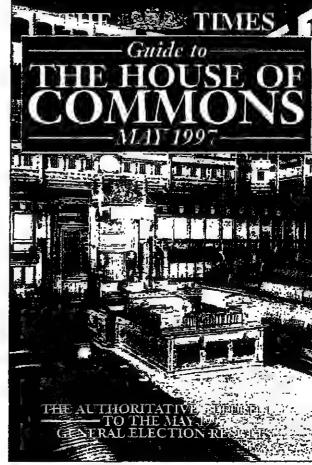
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Cousins aiming to prove he is the natural selection

THE words "it's not the winning, it's the taking part", clearly displayed in the British Olympic Association's (BOA) foyer, surely require rewriting as the 1998 Winter Games approach - especially where ice skating is concerned. When the Tesa British Se-

nior Ice Skating championships start today at the Hull Arena, most of those taking part will do so purely for national honours. Few have any chance of Olympic selec-tion as, for the first time, Great Britain is guaranteed just one place at the Games. The BOA's criteria for selection having to prove that skaters can finish in the top half of an Olympic field — has left the

prospective team depleted. Britain can enter one man. but there will be no pair or ice dancers and, although there is a glimmer of hope for Zoe Jones, who did well in the women's Olympic qualifier in Vienna, she still has to prove herself this week.

It certainly is not the best of times for British skating. After winning Olympic gold medals in 1976, 1980, and 1984, it has become a case of "and then there was one". Marika Humphreys and Philip Askew, the British ice dance champions, have dissolved their partnership, while Lesley Roger and Michael Aldred have quit eligible competition in the pairs. "It's cost us around £15,000 in the past 12 months to prepare for the Games," Rogers said. "The BOA needs to look at how they treat the athletes, because without them there would be no Olym-

Simon Clegg, the BOA's chief executive, is unrepentant, however. "The criteria was agreed with the National Ice Skating Association," he said. The skaters knew what they had to achieve and I'm disappointed they failed. But we have to realise that mediocrity is no longer acceptable in an Olympic environment." The focus of attention in

Hull will undoubtedly be on the battle for the men's Olympic place between Steven Cousins, the seven-time British champion, and the present title-holder, Neil Wilson. Despite finishing second last ear. Cousins was chosen over Wilson to compete in the world championships in Lausanne this year, where he came eleventh and earned Britain's only figure skating place for the Olympics.

Cousins, 25, trains in Ontario with Doug Leigh and Robert Tebby, his coaches,

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alongside Eivis Stojko, the three-time world champion. Cousins's training costs around £30,000 a year, which is partly covered by sponsor-ship. The rest he funds himself from exhibitions, tours and special appearances. Wilson, 19, trains at the

Dundonald International Ice Bowl in Northern Ireland under Sue and Phil Walsh. He lives with his parents and his training, which costs £20,000 a year, is funded almost entirely by them. On the ice, Cousins has

showed that he can jump with the best of them — in the short programme at the 1994 Olympics, he beat the former world champions Brian Boitano, Victor Petrenko and Kurt Browning — and finished fourth in the European championships last year. Wilson is one of the world's finest spinners, recently setting a world record of 60 revolutions.

Cousins and Wilson may attempt the triple axel this week, which is seen almost as a compulsory requirement if men are to advance internationally. It could be the makeor-break element in their quest for an Olympic place. Their main challenger is likely to be Clive Shorten, of Chelmsford.

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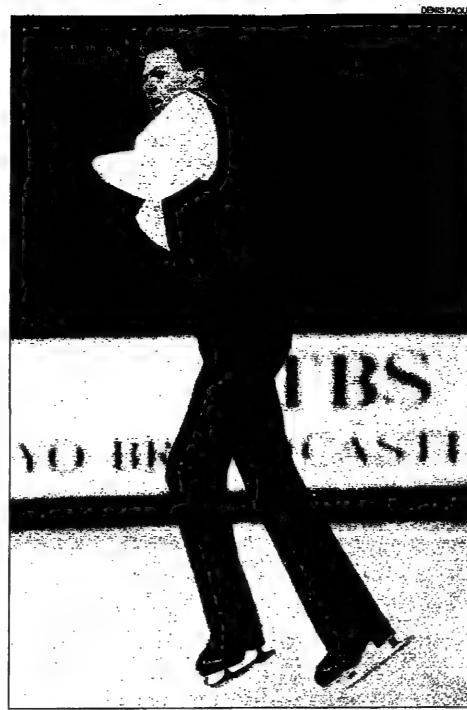
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SPORT IN BRIEF

Ingle fined £2,000 after positive test

E BOXING: Paul Ingle, the British and Commonwealth featherweight champion, has been fined £2,000 by the British Boxing Board of Control (BBBC) for taking a banned Boxing Board of Control (BBBC) for taking a banned substance. Ingle, 25, from Scarborough, tested positive after his successful title defence against Jonjo Irwin on October 11.

Ingle told a BBBC inquiry that he had taken the diurctic.

Frusemide, to reduce swelling on an ankle injury. John Morris, the BBBC secretary, said: "The board accepted an apology from Ingle but the severity of the fine is a warning to all boxers that they must exercise great care and not take any that they must exercise great care and not take any substance that has not been approved by the board."

Faldo shares the lead

M GOLF: Nick Faldo and Jesper Parnevik overcame slow and difficult greens to retain their shared lead after the second round of the eight-man Johnnie Walker Super Tour in Bangkok yesterday. They each shot one-under-par 71s to bring their total after two rounds to 138. Kruie Els, the to oring their total after two rounds to 158. Estric Las, the defending champion, nursing a trapped nerve in his neck, recorded a 71 after having physiotherapy before playing. He is third with a four-under-par total of 140. The third round will be played on the island of Boracay, in the Philippines, and the final round in Taiwan.

McCurrie on the move

■ EUGBY LEAGUE: Warrington Wolves have signed Steve McCurrie, the former Great Britain Under-21 captain, from Bedford rugby union club. McCurrie, a hooker or back-row forward in rugby league but a centre for Bedford, last played rugby league for Widnes in 1996, making 13 appearances. He was a Great Britain squad member for the 1995 World Cup. Anthony Sullivan, the Great Britain and St Helens winger, has withdrawn his transfer request.

Kipketer heads field

E ATHLENGS: Wilson Boit Kipketer, the 3,000 metres steeplechase world champion, will be the leading attraction at the County Durham international cross-country at Aykley Head on January 3. Kipketer, 24, who led a clean sweep of medals for Kenya at the world championships, will be up against the defending champion, Jon Brown, the Sheffield runner now based in Canada. Hendrik Ramaala, of South Africa, the Great North Run winner, is also in the field.

SQUASH

Dominant England move well into profit

FROM COLIN MCQUILLAN IN HONG KONG

ENGLAND moved into commanding positions in both the men's and women's qualifying pools of the world dou-bles championehin championships. here

The men's combination of Chris Walker and Mark Cairns - who lead their group beat both Peter Hill and Anthony Chua, of Singapore, and Michael Tootill and Morgan Morris, of South Africa, in straight sets. The South Africa pair provided a sterner test for the England men, losing 15-13, 15-12, whereas the Singapore pair were

unable to muster more than 13 games in the two sets. The women, Cassandra ackman and Sue Wright, also tories, over Yuko Kimura and Miyuki Adachi, of Japan, and Rebecca Chiu and Dawn Olsen, of Hong Kong. The

Japan pair lost 15-2, 15-7 in a swift dismissal, but the Hong Kong team, in front of their home crowd, put up a spirited performance in the first set, osing 15-11, 15-8. It was off the court that the

real action took place, however, with Wright and Cairns winning HK\$\$2,000 (about £7.500) on a \$10 line in the Mark Six Lottery last night. One more number would have seen their winnings soar to around HK\$500,000. Walker and Jackman, who

also won a small sum on the three-number lottery last night, team up today for the quarter-finals of the mixed doubles.

win of any kind here, yesterday lost twice in the men's doubles, twice in the women's doubles, and once in the mixed

CURLING

Sweden put Scotland

On their previous form, Scotland started as favourites but at the interval the scores were level at 2-2, and their failure to notice that 5weden were crowding the house with

Scotland will now meet England, as both home nations seek to win a world championship place, by virtue of finishing with a top seven position. England lost their questional to Germany with Andrea School penalising England's errors mercilessly. Germany had a 4-1 lead at the fifth end and

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

New Zealand v South Africa

FOOTBALL

infox 2 Rosenborg 2, Real Metrid 4 FC Porto 0, Group E Bayern Munich 0 Fice Cotherburg 1; Paris Saint-Germain 2 Besti-tes 1, Group P. Bayer Leverfacen 2 AS Monico 2; Sporting Ultion 2 Lienes SK 1. REPRESIENTATIVE MATCH: FA XI 2 ymen League 0. NEOND LEAKUE: Preside

ond leg: Sigo 1 Home Farm 0 (Sigo wir 1-0 on agg). WOSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE Fine

dley 1. VSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEA. 5: Premise chilaton: Postponed:

FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Cambridge Utd v Exeter (7.45)

to the sword THE Scotland women's team

were crushed by Sweden at the European championships in Fussen, Germany, yester-day, losing 3-9 in their quar-ter-final (Bill Melville writes). stones meant that Scotland conceded five shots at the final take-out.

were always in control.

OLASSIC COLA NATIONAL CUP. II

World Series Cup

HEW ZEALAND

S B O'Connor and G B Larsen did not bat. FALL OF WICKETS: 1-5, 2-6, 3-45, 4-83, 5-89, 5-97, 7-111.

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP: New Duth: West Indies 79 (T Gunaratre 4-6), Si Lartes 8:1-4 Si Lartes wer by 5x wickets. Ginzzlebed Holland: 46-8; New Zestand: 49-2. New Zestand win by eight wickets.

Second-round scores: 138: N Fe 67, 71; J Parnevik (See) 67, 71, 14 (SA) 98, 71 141; F Cases (Pril) 70, B Rusnight (Trai) 72, 70 144; I W (GB) 70, 74, 154; H Chayyun (Trai) 77, 161; M Nasim (Indio) 74, 87.

ICE HOCKEY SS CUP: Shallood Seems & Card

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RACING: TWO TALENTED BUT CONTRASTING PERFORMERS OFFER OPTIMISM FOR NEW YEAR

Grey Shot fires Festival warning salvo

RACING approaches Christmas with a bleakly preoccupied air, fretting and scowling over the fiscal predicament highlighted by Sheikh Mohammed's Gimcrack speech. Any inclination to humbug, however, dispersed yesterday among followers of National Hunt racing, who could celebrate - in Grey Shot and Copper Boy - two good reasons for looking forward. with impatient enthusiasm, to the new year.

Jump racing has never really been about money, so it seemed entirely appropriate that it should fall to those midweek backwaters. Taunton and Fakenham, to generate a liberating, tidal sense of adventure. Not that you could

> RICHARD EVANS Nap: Dawn Leader (1.20 Cheltenham) ...

in the move

rads field

no succession

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HAND

With the Party of the Party of

Dawn Leader can maintain Jim Old's rich vein of form by making a winning debut over hundles. The winner of two homper races, the six-year-old has schooled well at home and is highly regarded.

NB: Mentmore Towers (3.40 Cheltenham)

ask for two more different animals. Grey Shot, indeed, is something of an interloper. Lean and elegant, he arrived at Taunton with the swagger of a horse whose autumn's work included a course record at the headquarters of Flat

His performance, when making all in the Jockey Chib Cup at Newmarket in October, had exceeded even his heroic Goodwood Cup success the previous summer. He treated his rivals for the Somerset County Gazette Novices' Hurdle with distain. leading throughout and strolling home 23 lengths clear of Village King.

The grey's hurdling was thoroughly competent for Richard Dunwoody, if not so



Grey Shot is earmarked for the Cheltenham Festival after making an impressive first appearance over hurdles at Taumton yesterday

fluid as Zaralaska, a similar recent Flat recruit. What most pleased his trainer, Ian Balding, is that he evidently enjoys his new pastime, as Coral noted in offering 20-I (from 33l) against him winning the Smurfit Champion Hurdle.

"I hope in due course he might be in that class," Balding said. "But it would be porty to say now that he is being targeted at the race. We'll find him another race after Christmas, but he'll have no more than two before he goes to the

Cheltenham Festival — for something. I would think he's the best horse to have been to Taunton for a while, but it was like watching a group one for Jeff Smith [his owner] and myself. We were very

Copper Boy, by contrast, is a colossus of a horse, hewn from the bedrock of National Hunt. While the Dalgety Seamans-ICI Novices Chase at Fakenham is not the first place you would seek a prospective champion, it would be rash to

neglect his 17-length win as some provincial sideshow. Despite his physique, Cop-

per Boy is not a natural jumper of fences, and there is a perverse fragility to him. After his impressive start at Newbury a month ago, Bob Buckler, his trainer, decided to find a small race somewhere to give him more confidence. Nonetheless, Copper Boy yes terday encountered a decent sort of novice in Josh Gifford's Lord Rooble, who had made such a taking start to his

chasing career at Huntingdon. Fakenham, moreover, is a tight circuit that would constrict the extravagant gal-

lop of Copper Boy. Yet he was able to bludgeon his nimbler opponent out of the race in the back straight for the final time. In fact, Lord Rooble had become so exhausted by his efforts to keep in touch that he eventually lost second: Copper Boy: meanwhile, had jumped safely for Brendan Powell and crossed the line with his ears pricked.

"We've done the job we wanted," Buckler said. "He has not got that many miles on the clock, and we didn't want to frighten him. You could put him off quite easily, and for now we are inclined to wait

before going big with him."
The Dorset trainer — seeking his third consecutive best season - knows that Copper Boy has had only eight races, and his prudence will perhaps extend to preserving Copper Boy from the crude examination of the Festival.

Mentmore Towers can build on Haydock promise

CHANNEL 4

1.55: Stormtracker, while a fine jumper, is hindered by his preference for faster ground, as he does not have much of a change of gear. Oddly, all his rivals generally share that preference for firmer going. Among them, Young Hustler must confirm that he retains ability, while Harwell Lad, who capped his reformation in the spring by winning the Whitbread, makes little appeal on his

Avro Anson has a touch of class and, having run well first time out last season, sets the standard — but he emphatically favours faster conditions, and remains relat-(vely inexperienced over fences. That leaves the welltreated Yorkshire Gale, predictably out of his depth in the Hennessy but a winner here four times aiready, including a victory in this race last year.

2.30: Noble Colours, allowed to steal a similar race here last month, is again likely to dictate matters - though it is hard to picture him setting things up for Barna Boy, for whom conditions were perfect in the hectic County Hurdle at the Festival.

Doctoor, beaten when odds-on for his return, is nonetheless the one to beat a task best entrusted to the Lady Herries-trained Tibetan, who finally retrieved earlier promise at Huntingdon last time. He can follow up off a 5lb higher mark, the runner-up, New Inn, having since run a cracker at Sandown. Non Vintage needs things to go his way, while Mister Rm must wait for firm ground.

many problems, Pongo War-



TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

ing has done well to win four of his last seven starts. The handicapper has extended his sympathy by raising him just 21b for winning at Haydock last time — an accurate reflection on the uncompetitive nature of that

Henriena Knight's stable is certainly in form, and likewise that of the mud-loving With Impunity, who ran out of opposition over the National fences at Aintree. If his trainer were in similarly good form, Full Of Bounce would appeal strongly and he could nonetheless make the most of what looks - judging on his Sandown third in the spring - a very lair mark. Conditions were much too testing

3.40: Martin Pipe runs five. but Gysart looks the only one of interest today, having gamely denied the promising Young Kenny here last time (up 6lb for that). It took another Pipe horse, Deano's Beeno, to defy a progressive type in Mentmore Towers on his Haydock reappearance. A smart novice, the five-year-old pulled clear of the third and, back up in trip, looks one to follow with the benefit of that run. Inn At The Top impressed with his attitude last winter, but his stamina is suspect.

CHRIS MCGRATH

12.10 The French Furze 12.45 Yahmi "

1.20 Mountain Storm -

-1.55 Avro Anson 3.05 Full Of Bounce 3.40 MENTMORE TOWERS (nap)

Timekeeper's top rating: 3.40. HENTHORE TOWERS.

12.10 EAGLE PEST CONTROL THREE YES DLD MOVICES HURDLE

| Carry Hart | Car

SETTINGS: 8-11 The Franch Fuzze. 9-2 Real Estate, 7-1 City Helf. 10-1 Sound Appeal, 18-3 Bousson, 20-1 Letylal Thomas 25-1 others - 1996: DISALLOWED 10-9 M A Fingenty (4-1 to) Miss H Knight 12 ton

Plant Estate Seet Levilicus 61 in 11-runner Syo novice hundle at Ascot (2m 110yd, soft) with, Sound Appeni (4th befer ell) 714-3yo qovice hundle at Cheltentern (2m 110yd, good); personsy beat lie 6 Librate 111 is 9-runner 3yo novice hundle at Newtony (2m 110yd, good); personsy beat lie 6 Librate 111 is 9-runner 3yo novice hundle at Newtony (2m 110yd, soft) with Hadiol (Jenes); 411 5th, City Heit short head 2nd of 15 to Sad Med Bad in 3yo novice hundle at Newcestif (2m, good). Fletcher 521 7th of 12 to Knagedown firth in 3yo object hundle at Newcestif (2m 2 110yd, soft), previously 271-3rd of 12 to Verson (2m THE PRENCH FURZE was wildly impressive had time and will take some stopping

12,45 YES NO WAIT-SORBIES CHRIS COLEY RACING MOVICES CHASE (£5,012: 3m 1i 110yd) (3 runners) 014-113 EDGENDOR PRINCE 17 (BF.F.S.S) (Racing Hunes) P Hobbs 8-11-12 R Demondor 125-2243-12 YAHMI 14 (CD.G) (W Sacr) J Clid 7-11-12 M A Fingerald 132 0423-24 ROBSAND 26 (BF) (Sor Brain McGenth) & Balting 8-11-4 B Clifford

BETTING. 4-5 Valure 7-4 Edgemoor Pintos 11-2 Robsand. 1896; PLANSY TRUTH 18-11-4 Mr M Harms (8-1) Mr Westen 3 san

FORM FOCUS

Edgemoor Prince 151 3rd of 9 to Ottows in novice citase grade 2 at Worcester (2m 71 110)rd. soith, previously heat Belden, Helfo 2121 in 9-numer translating citase at Bangor (2m 41 110)rd, good). Yahrin 131 2md of 3 to Suring Chairman in novice chase at Newbury (3m, good in soith) previously beat Strong Chairman it in 6-numer annue chase at Chairman (3m 11, good). Robernol 131 4th of 9 to George Court in novice chase at Towcester (3m 11, good in soit). ROBSAND could be another for 'outsider of three' followers

1.20 CHELTERHAM SPONSORSHIP CLUB MATIONAL HUNT NOVICES

Cinton beal Mountain Storm (5th better off) 3 in 7-turner novice hurdin at Kerngion (2n., good in soil). Sherit Cracker beal Method 15th in 10-turner movice building at Kerngion (2n., good in soil). Sherit Cracker beal Method 15th in 10-turner movice burdin at feature at Method 15th in 10-turner movice burdin at feature 2th of 11 to Davis in movine burdin at Method Abbot (2m. 11, good), praviously 12 3rd of 14th 6 and 6 stance its mattern burdle at Wescamon (2n., good), praviously 123 and of 14th 6 state Abandon Abbot (2m. 11, good), praviously 123 and of 14th 6 state Abandon Abbot (2m. 11, good), praviously 123 and of 14th 6 state at Abandon Abbot (2m. 11, good), praviously 124 3rd of 9 in Cardin Abandon is mailteen burdle at Cheftenham (2m. 1104, good), praviously 124 3rd of 9 in Cardin Abandon Abbot (2m. 1104, good), praviously 124 3rd of 9 in Cardin Abandon Abbot (2m. 1104, good), praviously 124 3rd of 9 in Cardin Abandon Abbot (2m. 1104, good), praviously 124 3rd of 124 to Winston Rian in national hurdle frace at Sandonn (2m. 1104, good), produced (2m. 1104, good), produced (2m. 1104, good), praviously 124 3rd of 15 to Sapreme Charm, in conditional movies burdle at Sandonn (2m. 1104, good), produced (2m. 1104, g 1996. DARAYDAN 4-11-7 R Hughes (6-4 lav) M Pipe 9 min

DAWN LEADER was a top bumper horse and his stable are in lighting form



SPECIALISTS

CHELTENHAM: Trainers: 1 Baiking, 5 Admers from 18 numers, 27.8% C Weedon, 3 from 14, 21.4%; D Nicholson, 33 from 197, 16.5%; K Bailey, 15 from 91, 16.5%; J Glitord, 20 from 124, 78.1%; C Mann, 4 from 26, 15.4%, Jockeye: A P. McCoy, 26 sensers from 102, 7666, 25.5%; N Willemen, 26 from 126, 22.5%; R Dursspooly, 37 from 216, 17,2%; G Green, 4 from 26, 15.4%; W Marsion, 13 from 90, 14.4%; P Histo, 9 from 79, 12.3%;

GUIDETO OURAN- NERKTECARD 101 112148 9800 TMES 15 (SF.F.R.S) (Mrs D Rebrisco) E-Hall 18-0 _______ 8 West (7) 88

1.55 C F ROBERTS ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS HANDICAP CHASE (£10,260: 3m 11 110yd) (5 turners) ### 1903-0-1 VOUNG HERTER 20 (CDJ.F.G.S) (6 Medicinen) N T-Chinis 16-71-10 C Mentio 134 5/3US5 AVRO ANSON 230 (F.G.) Later) M Camerato 9-11-5 P Ment 152 (1971) HARMEL LAD 230 (D.F.G.S) AVRO MESCON 250 (F.G.) LATER) N T-Chinis 16-71-10 Mr R Notati 173 4/300-7 VONSCHIEG CALL 53 (CDJ.F.G.S) (6 Notyo) L-Gold 11-10-10 M Wildowski 174 1392-44 BTORNITRACIOR 41 (BF.CD.F) (T Dress) C Weston 8-10-0 M Rickards 170 SETTERIC: 7-4 Harwell Lad, 3-1 Young Haptier, 7-2 Auro Assoc, 5-1 Stommerier, 8-1 Yorkship Ship.
1988; YORKSHITE CALE 10-11-10 N Williamson (11-10) J Gillord 2 no.

Young Hustler 62: 7th of 11 to Samles in handicap chase is Aritree (3m 34, good to soft); previously 35th 2md of 6 to into the Pher's No. 2 in 3 condition chase at Aritree (3m 34, good). Harveel Lad herd Pher's No. 2 in 3 conditions beating a chase good at \$3 chandren (5m 51 100d, good) to soft) with Arm Avestin (6th tester off) heating a distance 5th and Verticitine Gate (7to better off) fell. Younghine Gate pulled up in handicap chase at Newton (3m 2 1 100d, good), positionally Stormtracker 41 4th of 8 to Berjoss to Areactap chase at Associ (8m 1100d, good), positionally 21 4th of 8 to Garrytough in heading chase at Newton (3m 110d, good).

YORKSHIPE GALE had no chance in the Henhaley but this is easier

2.30 CHUBB FIRE HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,453: 2m 1f) (7 runners) -

SETTING: 9-4 Dentor, 7-2 Tibeten, 5-1 Serra Bay, Nobia Colsons, 13-2 Micha Ron, 6-1 Physig Bugir, 20-1 Non Virtage. . * 1986: CHAL-YO 6-11-10 & Union (5-4 lav) J Old 4 san

Barne Boy 641 4th of 19 is Dreams End in handicap hurdle grade in a Barne Boy 641 4th of 19 is Dreams End in handicap hurdle grade in a Barne Boy 641 4th of 19 is Dreams End in handicap hurdle grade in a Barne handicap hurdle at handicap in the at Chellenham (2m 11, good). Thetenham to 4 is Brecon in handicap hurdle at Fornham (2m 21 10yd, self); previously 21 2nd of 18 is Carlito Brigante in handicap hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, good); Non Vintage 33 13th of 21 to Major familie in handicap hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, good); non Vintage 33 13th of 21 to Major families in handicap hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, good); non Vintage 33 13th of 21 to Major families in handicap hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, good); non Vintage 33 13th of 21 to Major families in handicap hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, good); non-vintage 33 13th of 21 to Major families in handicap hurdle at Newbury (2m 110yd, solt); previously 13 4th of 5 to Eta Agapt Mou in handicap hurdle at Newbury (2m 110yd, solt); previously 13 4th of 5 to Eta Agapt Mou in handicap hurdle at Assol (2m 110yd, solt) Noble Colours beat Come On Permy 13 in 7-spons families at Cheltenham (2m 110yd, sod).

BARNA BOY lower of previously 13 16 host bailt headed BARNA BOY loves a round here and still looks tairly tessied

3,05 LETHEBY & CHRISTOPHER CONDITIONAL. JOCKEYS HANDICAP CHASE (£3,420: 2m 5f) (6 junners) | 121-P21 POINGO WARRING 25 (2.F.E.S) (Mrs.) Plantiers) Mrs. H Knight 6-11-11 P Hendry 128 (2.F.E.S) (Mrs.) Plantiers) Mrs. H Knight 6-11-11 P Hendry 129 (2.F.E.S) (Mrs.) Platins 8-11-8 ... L Customins 138 (2.F.E.S) (Mrs.) Platins 138 (Mrs.) Platins 138 (2.F.E.S) (Mrs.) P

Pongo Waring beat Rustic Air 31 in 5-timer handicap chase at Haydock. (2m 41. good): previously 121 2md of 6 in Abaverd in handicap chase at Evelet (2m 61 110yd, good to soil). With impunity beat Fasplack Lad (9th better off) a deblace in 7-timer amateur handicap chase at Antire (2m 61, good) to soil). Yearnem Warrior 31 2md of 20 to Bellis Life in handicap chase at Antires (2m 61, good) Soildenswift 93/4 with of 8 to Kannico-Speed in novice handicap chase at Antires (2m 61, good) to soil). Yearnem Warrior 31 2md of 20 to Bellis Life in handicap chase at Antires (2m 61, good) to soil), previously neck 2md of 11 to Pelisticsery in sponce handicap chase at Jumpie (2m 61, good). Full Of Bounce 251 3rd of 9 to Sophie May in handicap chase, at Winnester (2m 71 110yd, soil). YEOMAN WARRIOR comes from a yard whose horses lend to go well besh

3.40 IAN WILLIAMS OWNERS GOLD CARD HANDICAP HURBLE (26,964: 3m 110yd) (12 numers)

Long handlests: Smith Too 9-12, Hordic Bresch 9-12, Elburg 9-11, Toby Brown 9-1. BETTING: 7-2 Gysan, 9-2 Manipage Towers, 6-1 Script Too, 7-1 Parency Pele, 6-1 in 44 The Top, 10-1 Geometry, 12-1 chars. 1998-ELBURS 6-10-5 M A Fitzgerald (7-2) I George 10 ran

Mandmore Towers 77 2nd of 10 to Desno's Beaut in handicap bridge 1 Haydnot (2m 61, sail) with Alliquation (2b better 60) 511 (6h and Coerten's (2h better oil) 56l 8th Cystat heat Young Kenny 36 in 1 2-hunter tradicap hardle at Chellenham (3m 21, good); previously best kinn of Our Fether 13/4 in 5-hunter handicap hardle at Chellenham (3m 21, good); previously best kinn of Our Fether 13/4 in 5-hunter handicap hardle at Luction (3m 21 170gd, 3mm) with Striker Too (4th better oil) bester a distance 4th lant At The Top beat Merity Mass 21 in 5-hunter novice handle at boncaster (2m 41, good); previously best Herbert Lodge 31 in 9-hunter novice handle at Boncaster (2m 41, good is firm). Striker To best Overopian 2141 in 4-hunter handicap hardle at Huntingsion (3m 21), good is firm). Ricetic Beauth 41 2nd of 5 to Carliste Bandito's in amaleur handicap hardle at Warwick (2m 41, good). Toby Brown (8 2nd of 5 to Splendid Thyte in handicap hardle at Warwick (2m 41, good). Toby Brown (8 2nd of 5 to Splendid Thyte in handicap hardle at Warwick (2m 41, good). Toby Brown (8 2nd of 5 to Splendid Thyte in handicap hardle at Warwick (2m 45, good). Toby Brown (8 2nd of 5 to Splendid Thyte in handicap hardle at Warwick (2m 45, good). Toby Brown (8 2nd of 5 to Splendid Thyte in handicap hardle at Warwick (2m 45, good). Toby Brown (8 2nd of 5 to Splendid Thyte in handicap hardle at Warwick (2m 45, good). (2m, 3), (1000 & 509).

MENTMORIE TOWERS is improving in Jeans and bounds and has a transmitus chance.

YESTERDAY'S

Taunton

House good (good to ach an phone)
1.00 (2m.3! 110yd hole) 1, The Minder (D. Sate, 9-4 law; Timetamon's top rating);
2. Friendly, House; (14-1); 3, Palace
Palace (14-1); 16-rem 141, sh hd -6
Edhearth, (Tota: £2,20; £1,40, £5,90; £6,10, DF; £20,90 Trio: £38.10, CSF; £28.47

128.47.
1.50 (2m 11 holis) 1. Grey Shot (R Durwoody, 1-3 last); 2. Village King (14-1), 3. Welton Amend (14-1) 14 nm 23, 81 I Balding, Tote, 51.20; 51.40, 53.30, 51.20 BF 512.10 Thio: 521.00, CSF-55.61.
2.05 (2m 31 ch) 1. Winnew (J Cultoty, 8-1); 2. Hightown Cavaller (20-1), 3. Miramans (33-1) 13 nan. NR* Miss Souter 31, 52 Miss H Kinght Tote, 54.70; 51.40, 53.40, 53.40, 52.70, DF 544.90, Thio: 5548.60, CSF-594.42 Tricast 52.740.96, 2.55 (2m 110yd hole) 1, Torch Vert (A P McCoy, 4-5 lav); 2, Jovini Man (18-1), 3. Defenditional (11-1), 8 nan. NR* Pharsik, Rum Customer 2, 1141 M Pipe Tote, 51.80, 51.40, 55.40, 52.00, DF 510.50, Thio: 551.90 CSF-512.76, Tricast 533.14.
3.05 (3m ch) 1, Gelebson Jame (Mr J Tozard, 4-1); 2, Mammy's Choice (3-1 lav); 3, Inden Rum (18-1), 8 nan 194, 24-1, F Nachola Tote 53.90; 52.40, 51.30, 52.70, DF 54.20 CSF-515.00 Tricast 51.50 Cm (Mr J Miss 61).

EISE 61 2.25 (2m 1f hole) 1. Nine O Three (A Thomson 9-1) 2. King of The Dewn (11-10 lay); 3. Nordansk (9-1). 7 ran. 9(, 25) A Hobbs Tote. 211 40; g4.10, 21 30 DF: 28.00 CSF £16.47

Placegot: £45.50 Guadgot: £28.60 Fakenham

Going: good to soft (good in places)
12.40 (2m hole) 1, Ericolin (X Aizpust,
13-2); 2, Albertone (4-1), 3, Thomas
Crown (15-2) Highly Reputable (6th) 11-4
lav, 13 ran, NFL Laura Lye, 6t, 6t, Miss A
Stokel, Tote: 52.10; 52.90, 51.50, 52.50,
DF- 523.50 Title 588 70 CSF 532.67
Titleast 1155 81
1,10 (2m hole) 1, Missty Cay /R Thomson,
7-21, 2, Scarrots (9-4 fav); 3, Sharbadand
(8-1) 10 ran, NFL Dick Turpin 16; 6t Miss
V Ward, Tote: 54 60, 51 10, 51.40, 54.40,
DF- 55.50 Title 533.20 CSF 512.31
1,40 (3m 110)d 61) 1, Missty Miss of Mission 14, 140 (3m 110)d 61) 1, Missty Mission 14, 140 (3m 110)d 61) 1, Mi

1.40 (3m 110yd ch) 1, Manor Mieo (Michael Brennen, 11-8 tav), 2, in Trush (3-1); 3, Charlatmola (50-1) 5 ran 3½, dist. G Prodromou Tote 52-20, 51-80, 51-50 DF: \$4-40 CSF, \$6.00 G Historina (1616 2.2.4; 21.3), 21.50
DF: £4.40 CSF. 26.00
2.15 (2m 110yd hdle) 1. Waytarers Way
(M A Fizzgerald, 9-4 fav); 2. Lassia (14-1),
3. Lobslet Cottage (4-1) 97ar 18. 13:1 N
Henderson. Tota: £2.70, £1.90. £3.90,
£1.80 DF: £24.00. Tota: £18.80 CSF.
£30.94 Troast. £113.75.
2.45 (2m 5f 110yd ch) 1. Copper Boy (8
Powell, 4-7 fav), 2. Straight On (8-1); 3,
Lord Rooble (9-4) 6 ran. 17. 15: R
Buckler. Tota: £160, £110, £3.80 DF:
£6.90 CSF: £5.32
2.15 (2m 4f: hdle) 1. Holldham Bay (X
Aizpuru, 6-1), 2. Frontier Flight (13-8)fav), 3. Crown And Cushion (13-8)fav), 3. Crown And Cushion (13-8)fav), 4. Et. L Woordingham. Tota: £8.60,
£1.7 38. Tricast £23.23
Placepot: £10.30

Quadpot: £2,40 Market Rasen

Going; heavy 12.50 (2m 3f 110yd hdie) 1, Hever Golf Diamond (B McGann, 4-1), 2, Fast And Fancy (10-1), 3, Existin Kiss (3-1) Forzar (4th) 13-8 fav 7 ran. (8), 151, J Best, Tote, £4.00, £2.50, £3.30 OF £57.40 CSF £37.54. 237.54. 1.20 (2m II 110yd hdie) 1, Hariequin Chorus (R Farrent, 1-5 fav) 2, Nileat (15-2): 3, Firmure (20-1) 7 (2n 9), 71 Mrs J Perman, Tota, C1.20; E1.10, E1.80, OF-52.20 CSF, E1.59. 1220 CSF. £1 69.

1.55 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Majority Major (A S Smith, 16-1) 2. Dorin Castle (5-4 fav): 3. Srenz (20-1), 6 ran. NR: Dese Marshall, Hd, 23l. P Cheestrough Tota £16.60; 62.90, £1.40. DF £15 10 CSF £33.27 C33.27
2.25 (2m 1f 110yd hdle) 1, Guttendige (R. Johnson, 4-7 lav); 2, Centaur Exprésa (11-4), 3 Night Dance (8-1), 4 ran NR Our Kirs, 4d, dist. P Evans Tota £1 60. DF, £2 10. CSF; £2 82. Marts Rend (11-4) DF: 62 10. CSF 62 62. 2.55 (2m if 110yd ch) 1, Wade Read (J.F. Titley, 5-4); 2, Tejano Gold (6-1); 3, 2abadi (4-5 tav); 3 ran. Si, 161 Miss H Knight Tote: 62.20. DF: 62.00. CSF:

55.11.
3.25 (2m 1f 110yd bdle) 1, Manileno (R. Johnson, 13-21, 2, Mass Ondee (11-4), 3. Hoh Explores (9-1) Grata Times 9-4 (au. 8) ran. 81, 81 M Pipe Tote (25.50, 52.20, 51:10, 52.20 DF, 55.50, Trio. \$45.50 CSF: \$24.96 ot £30.10

DONCASTER

THUNDERER 12:30 Silent Valley. 1.00 Spring Gale. 1.35 Gutteridge. 2.10 Speaker WeatherIII. 2.45 Monnale Forte. 3.20 Regal Absence.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM. 12.30 GLASOOW PADDOCKS SELLING HURDLE (£7,887; 2m 110yd) (12 Junners) 1 OP COS NA FARRANSE 22 (B) M Soversby 4-11-

P D00'S MBTRAL 38 K Morgan 4-11-7 A 5 Smith

3 300 FSSDSTAR 18 (V) M Dods 4-11-7 A 5 Smith

3 300 FSSDSTAR 18 (V) M Dods 4-11-7 A 5 Smith

4 306 FSCRUTINEON 33 J Tume 4-11-7 R Burns (7) 8

4 306 FSCRUTINEON 33 J Tume 4-11-7 R Burns (7) 8

5 60 C-4AMPS-SGR 30 F Marray 4-11-2 W Down - HORGET PARIS 336F B Rethred 4-11-2 A Carne (7) LACHESIS 295 Mes S Lemmento 4-11-2 J Magne (3) - LACHESIS 295 Mes S Lemmento 4-11-2 J Magne (3) - O Pears 3 8 WELSIOP 20 (5) J Burns 1-10-2 B Powell 3 0 80 RBSONE ETA 13 J Gotte 3-10-2 B CoState (7) 2 B CoState (7) 2 ZAMBARY 32F 6 Fumo 3-10-2 G Supr Lyon - 11-8 Steel Valley, 7-2 Reconstraint, 9-2 Tabutz, 7-1 Pagnar, 8-1 Wilkstip, 10-1 Lacheste, 16-1 Dom's Michael Forget Paris, 25-1 other.

1.00 RED RUM NOVICES CHASE (£3,600 3m) (4)

4-9 Spring Sale, 9-2 Cash Flore, 7-1 Torus Scu., 10-1 Apache Raubir 1.35 DOORKHOCKER CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE

9-4 Most Warted: 11-4 Suiterlage, 9-2 Vintage Tallunger, 5-1 Solder Thank 8-1 Caldury, 10-1 Denning Fless, 33-1 Un Post Laco

2.10 VULRORYS CLOWN CHASE (Limsted handicap. £4,474. 2m 3t 110yd) (4)

11111 SPEAKER WEATHERNLL 13 (F.G) O Brancan 6-11-7 J R Kennologii 4 P-P5 EASTHORPE 21 (B.C.F.G.S) Miss, H Xoogia 9-10-12 J F Tilley

-4 Speaker Weetherall, 9-4 Poster's Bay, 3-1 Garmein, 5-1 Eastboop 2.45 DOUGASTER SPONSORSHIP CLUB HANDICAP CHASE (£4.473: 2m 110yd) (8) 32148 JAZZY REFRAN 43 (D.F.Q.S.) L Welt. 7-11-3 ... J F Taloy 140
4-03 DEAR DD 8 (D.S.) N Hendervan 10-10-12 ... J F Taloy 140
5-33-4 BOLD BOSS 27 (D.R.S.) G M Moore 8-10-12 ... J Cataghan 110
6-19-1 MODRAIF PORTE DS (D.F.O.S.) J Adam 7-10-10 ... B Powell 1347

11-4 Monnain Forta, 3-1 Green Green Depart, 4-7 Dans Do. 5-1 Bold Boxs, 6-1 Juzzy Retries. 8-1 Referency Said. 3.20 SAUCY KIT HOVICES HURDLE (£2,721: 2m 4f) (15)

9 O ROBERTO RWA 15 O Sharwood 4-10-12 P. Carberry
10 0-50 SUMO 34 Mrs S Lamyonan 4-10-12 P. Carberry
10 0-50 SUMO 34 Mrs S Lamyonan 4-10-12 S. E. Lee 20
11 OF SUSH BAR 67F Mrs. M Reveloy 6-10-12 E. E. Lee 20
12 3-82 TUCKERS TOWN 31 (8F) O Sharwood 5-10-12 JA McCarthy
13 WURLITZER 884F Mrs. J Ceci 5-10-12 JF Tibley
14 0-5 6ESHA 16 N Rabadog 5-10-7 DOUBTFUL
15 P WILLOW MRLL 26 J Mascha 5-10-7 A S Smith

2-1 Regal Absence, 5-1 Prince Kinely, 6-1 Tuckurs Town, 8-1 Judicsec, Nam Wurldzer, 10-1 Roberto Rees, 12-1 Arrogeni Her, Ermene Streel, 18-1 others. COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRANCHS: N Headerson, 6 winners, from 17 namers, 29.4%, Mrs M Remeiny, 16 from 75, 21.3% O Sharwood, 9 from 47, 19.1%, 0 Michaelson, 8 from 42, 19.0%, Michaelson, 8 from 16, 18.8%, N Teider, 6 from 34, 17.5%

LINGFIELD PARK

12.40 Temptress. 1.10 Chipstead Bay. 1.45 Carol Singer. 2.20 Bow Bells. 2.55 Errant. 3.30 Cee-N-K.

DRAW: 5F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST 12.40 COLD AS CHARITY HANDICAP

(£2,791: 1m 5f) (11 numers) 1 3505 KALEY SENOR 10 (5) R Arrestore 4-10-0 ... F Norton 11 2 0400 PRIVATE ALDIENCE 6 W Mai 4-9-12 ... Martin Devyer 4 3 3421 VIEDNAM 8 (C) W Arris 3-9-10 (See) ... P Dobbs (7) 8 4 2600 PRIVATE ALDIENCE 6 W Mai 4-9-12 ... M Ryin 10 5 2600 AS-15 B (C-F) M Johotzon 3-9-2 ... W Ryin 10 5 2600 AS-15 B (C-F) M Johotzon 3-9-2 ... Dean McKenver 3 6 2100 REMARS 8 (V.E.F) MERS 15 Endiets 4-8-11 ... A Clark 6 7 1114 HARLEDUNK WALK 46 (BF,C,F,G) R 0 Surbum 6-8-5 J Chann 7 8 0035 TENDITRESS 10 (F-S) J1 Harrs 4-8-4 ... M Vilviston (7) 5 9 3306 OOZIDEN 10 (BC,F-S) L Morague Hail 8-7-10 P M Chann (7) 5 10 -000 EL PRESIDENTE 8 (V) G Emplit 4-7-10 ... N Carliste 9 11 2600 EDECUTIVE OFFICER 10 (B, R) Florest 4-7-10 ... N Carliste 5-2 Markeoum Walk, 7-2 Wennau, 9-2 Rebash, 8-1 As-Is 10-1 Knoley Senor, 12-1 French Mrs. Dedem, 14-1 others

1.10 ALLS FAIR HANDICAP 1 0000 GOODBYE GATEMEN 24 (D.S.) B Pearce 3-9-11 Maria Dwyer 1 2 0003 JUST DESIDENT 10 (D.F.S.) R Whitaker 5-9-9 Deen McKeowin 8

3 5600 THREEPLAY S2 J Akehursi 3-9-3 ... A Clark 4 0011 CHRPSTEAD BAY 2 (C) K hory 3-9-7 (7es) ... C Scally 3 5 2006 FEATHERSTONE LANE 4 (D.F) Mbs L Social 6-9-5 My Vignem 7 6 1442 OPPINING RANES 24 (D.F) M Burry 5-8-12 ... P Brodby (7) 2 7 9002 SAINSTE HARBOUR 4 (D.F.S) S Kettlevell 4-8-7 J Denn 5 6 0000 RCVAL EMBLEM 118 E Vincelor 3-8-0 ... S Carson (7) 6 5-2 Oppining Range, 7-2 Chipsised Bay, Jack Dissident, Threeplay, 7-1 others.

1.45 GIFT HORSE NURSERY HANDICAP (2-Y-0: £2,700: 61) (7) 1 2040 CARCL SMGER 4 (BF) M Johnston 9-7 Dean McKerown 3
2 5163 PRIVATE SEAL 14 (F) 6 1 Majore 9-6 R Brickland (7) 7
3 0421 BATCHWORTH BELLE 8 (CD) E Wheeter 9-6 (Pag. 8 Carson (7) 8
4 8024 BLUE SHADOW 14 B Hamman 0-1 R Houghes 5
5 0233 MELIA'S MAGIC 8 K Hovy 8-8 N Advers 2
6 3634 DANDE TRIES 95 K hovy 8-5 March 10 Page 4
7 3005 HGAWIN 6 (8,0) 5 Dow 8-0 PDoe (7) 1 3-1 Batchworth Bello, 4-1 Carol Singer, 9-2 Muya's Magne, 5-1 Presid Seel, 11-2 Blue Shadow, 8-1 Dande Tithes, 10-1 Figgren

BUNKERED FIRST TIME: Cheltenham: 230 Doctoor 230 Rying Eagle Doncaster: 1230 Cois Na Farrage, Risiostar Willskip Lingfield Park: 1240 El Presidente. 220 Highbury

2.20 ANY PORT MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES

2-Y-O. \$22,294; 71) (1U)

1 45:33 APPYARO 114 (BF) M Dunin 8-6 ... A Wheten (3) 7

2 0405 HIGHERY LEGEND 14 (V) Bob Jones 8-6 N Day 6

3 0 B BOW BELLS 95 C Wall 8-4 ... A Clark 4

4 5505 CHAYA SHAN 150 S Mellow 6-3 ... P McCabe (3) 3

5 0045 BALL DANKE 210 Booth 8-1 ... A Makens 1

6 05 FLUCKER 56 Lind Fluringston 8-1 ... J Dainn 5

7 840 LADY LAPHEROMS 41 W Mair 8-1 ... Marine Duyer Vil

8 5003 MISS SKYE 24 T Raughton 8-1 ... Filterion 8

9 00 NOREHTERACKER 13 8 Peaceck 7-12 ... J Brandsile 9

10 4064 THE ROBE 17 PM Methan 7-12 ... N Cartisle 9 5-2 Appyabo, 7-2 The Robe, 5-1 Factor, 6-1 Mics Slaye, 6-1 Lady Leptonaug, 10-1 Bali, Dance, 12-1 Bow Bells, 16-1 others

2.55 APPLE A DAY APPRENTICE LIMITED STAKES (£2,294: 1m 2l) (9)

1 8430 INVOCATION 17 (C.F) 5 L Moore 10-8-12 R Bristand (7) 3 2 0000 AMESONE POWER 32 (CD.6) J HRS 11-8-10 A Whelen 6 3 -660 BRLADDE 10 (C) R Fivers 4-8-10 ... R Havin 4 4 -850 ERRART 174 (CD) D Cospove 5-8-10 ... M Band 1 5 3030 MURCHLES 55 Bob Jones 4-8-10 ... Germon Jones (7) 5 3060 FEEL NO FEAR 14 W Maint 4-8-7 Martin Durser 9 5 3030 MURCHLES SS Bob Jones 48-70 ... German Jones (7) S 5 3060 FEEL NO FERR 14 W Main 48-7 ... Maint Dwyer 9 7 1407 LITTLE MISS REOT 838 (ED.F) R O'Salirem 7-8-7 P McCabe 7 8 000 POLISHED STEEL 202 (8) Long Hennes 3-8-7 P Duc (5) 2 9 0245 TWIN TIME: 14J J Rog 3-8-4 ... E Milligan (3) 8 5-2 Twin Time 3-1 Maddids. 4-1 Septiation 8-1 Billardia, Ernal 10-1 Feel No Fapt, 16-1 Amesionse Power Polished Steel, 25-1 Little Miss Ribni.

3.30 LADBROKE ALL-WEATHER TROPHY **HANDICAP (£3,599**: 1m) (12)

3-1 Northern Angel, 7 2 Whate Plans, 13-2 Victory Team, 7-1 Banchaf, 8-1 Zurs, 10-1 Tuto Cospis, 12-1 Banchag, 14-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAMERS: V State, 5 witners from 18 numers, 27 8% Lady Herries, 11 from 51, 21 6% Load Hardingdon, 49 from 245 28 0%, M Johandon, 81 from 307, 19 9%; R Armstong, 17 from 96, 17 7%, P Harts, 15 from 86, 16 7%; L Montague Hall, 15 from 99, 15 2%

JOCKEYS: P Dobbs, 3 weeks from 6 rides, 50.0%, 6 Milligan, 6 from 26, 23.1% W Ryan, 37 from 212, 17 5%; D McKeown, 24 from 143, 16.8%, C Sally, B from 49, 16.3%, R Havitn, 3 from 22, 13.6%; M Wigham, 18 from 143, 12.6%, A Clant, 64 from 528, 12.1%.

Rob Hughes on the men in the front line of the battle for the European Cup

Prize assets set Continent's goal standard

THE STRIKING THREAT TO UNITED'S GRAND EUROPEAN AMBITION

chester United might have to be even more special than they believe themselves to be if they are to win the European Cup. That, in pounds, is a conservative valuation of the prime goalscorers owned by the seven other dubs remaining in the competition.

It is axiomatic that, to cut the diamond, you need the hardest, most reliable edge. United failed to capitalise on chances at the semi-final stage last year. They almost blunted Juventus, right up to the 83rd minute on Wednesday night and, if things such as team spirit, organisation and allround ability were equal. there is no doubt that the crown jewel of the Continent will go to the team that can best accept their opportu-

It is chilling, therefore, to observe that Real Madrid, desperate to regain their former glory, spent £8.5 million in signing Savio, the 23-year-old Brazilian striker, from Flamengo on Tuesday. Madrid, as the four goals they scored against FC Porto on Wednesday demonstrated, already possess almost a sur-plus of striking talent: Roberto Carlos, of Brazil he of the mighty left foot, made and scored a goal, while Davor Suker, the Croatia striker, also left-footed and with a sniper's deadliness, scored two. They compete with Raul, the most gifted of Spain's young forwards, Fernando Morientes and Pedrag Mijatovic, the Serb, for places in the front line.

So why have Madrid borrowed yet more millions from the bank to acquire another young goalscorer? Is it to put pressure on the moody Croat-Serb duo up front? Is it to give another option to the coach? Or is it the act of opulent negativity, taking out of circulation a goalscorer who might help someone else to the prize? It puts growing pressure on United and Juventus to pay

the asking price to River Plate for Marcelo Salas, the coveted Chile striker, before January 31 - the deadline for teams wishing to add to their squads before the quarter-finals. Or there is Gabriel Batistuta, the Argentina striker, who is proven in Europe and whose club, Fiorentina.

was not involved in European

thub tournaments this season.

His availability would de-

Are goalscorers so very

United: from bottom right. olockwise, Suker, Elber, Zidane, Repeba, Stjevebanko, Belniich, end Herrich. Will Salas, top right, be joining them?

Juventus, through the host of chances they spurned against United on Wednesday night, showed that they are not the imperious European side that they were and for that they have only themseives to blame. Not only was Alessandro Del Piero, who has scored 15 goals in 12 appearances in Europe, suspended, but the Turin management had attempted to repeat a profiteers trick two

They sold Gianluca Vialli and Fabrizio Ravanelli, the strikers of 1996, and got away with it. But then Juventus accepted bids for their replacements. Alen Boksic and Christian Vieri. To sell once was possibly prudent, to sell again looks like carelessness. Do not bet against Juve procuring Salas.

precious? Of course they are.

Dynamo Kiev would not be where they are without Sergei Rebrov and Andrie Shevchenko who, if Kiev weaken during the winter, would fetch

Borussia Dortmund, the European champions, have

just become resurgent after an epidemic of injuries that would end the challenge of most of their rivals. On Wednesday, Dortmund won 3-0 away to Sparta Prague with-out their captain. Matthias Sammer, Paulo Sousa, their playmaker, and Stephane Chapuisat, their Switzerland

striker, among others. No problem: Andy Möller, their mercurial and experienced linkman, rose prodigiously to score, then Jovan Kirovski, once of Manchester United, and Scott Booth, formerly of Aberdeen, poached goals in the mud.

Dortmund have a habit of shrugging off the loss of their strikers - they had II different scorers in 11 games in winning this competition last season, eight so far in six performances this time. That exceptional. Most teams still pin everything on the

be they held together by s, painkillers or blind

Bayer Leverkusen rely on the wiles of their former East German, Ulf Kirsten, and

Bayern Munich, waiting for

Cole doubts remain

Elber, from Brazil, and Ruggiero Rizzitelli, from Italy to gel, play the long ball to

He is big, he is ugly, he is sometimes described as ponderous; some even see him as the reincarnation of the old. unimaginative England target man, but Jancker is laughing all the way to the Bundesbank, scoring and creating goals with his knock-

Last, but not least, among United's rivals are AS Monaco. They managed to hold on to Thiery Henry - despite attempts by, inevitably, Real Madrid to steal him - and he scored another beautiful goal against Leverkusen on Wed-

nesday night. Together with Victor Ikpeba, of Nigeria, and their young find of the season, David Trezeguet, Monaco come back from two goals down - and that without their own own expensive new equisition, Japhet N'Doram, the Chad forward.

High quality all around. There happens to be at least another £100 million worth of poalscorers who have become the untouchables of the Champions' League, either because they have failed and their clubs have been eliminated, or because they are engaged in the Uefa Cup or the Cup Winners' Cup.
All this, and still Alex

Ferguson, the United manager, frets over whether Andy Cole who, at £7 million, scoring goals against English defenders as if it is second nature to him, really has the clusiveness, sharpness and confidence to do it on Europe's highest stage. You pays

Dalglish is happy with the work of his senior citizens | CW | D

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

TWO former England internationals, free transfers both, were responsible for New-castle United ending their European Cup Champions' League campaign on a high note at St James Park en Wednesday night. A 2-0 victory over Dynamo Kiev meant that Newcastle finished third in group C.

While Kenny Dalglish, the Newcastle manager, continues to travel Europe, searching for new talent with which: to bolster his team, John Barnes and Stuart Pearce, very definitely "old" talent, scored the goals that gave Newcastle victory over the winners of the group.

Dalglish, who arrived back in Newcastle just hours before the Kiev match after making a trip to Madrid, apparently to watch Igor Cvitanovic, the Croatia Zagreb forward, said: When we came here we started to work a little bit on. early to get rewards like that. Certainly the two youngsters, Barnes and Pearce, scoring the goals stands them in good stead for their futures."

Pearce, whose goal was a typically powerful left-footed strike from a free kick, was more excited about the "nil" in the scoreline than his own

"I'm just plea: conceded a goal. I'm a defender, so primarily I want so keep a clean sheet - that's what we get judged on. That pleased me much more than scoring a goal. Of course I was pleased: to score my first goal for the club. But the most important thing at the moment for us is to keep clean sheets."

It was the control of David Batty in midfield that was especially notable, however. The England international's passing was back to its best centre of midfield gave the players around him the chance to get forward to

Dalglish also expresser satisfaction over the continuing return to fitness of Asprilla. Tino lasted another 50-odd minutes, as it was a good. mercial for him but he needs ames to regain his full match imess," he said. "He did well and was one of the many things that pleased me last

Alessandro Pistone, Newcastle's Italian defender, was taken off at half-time and is doubtful for the match at Barnsley tomorrow, although he said yesterday that "it was my back which took a knock but I am determined to be fit for Saturday. I will wait and

see but want to stay in the

continues to the end of the institut finandaria War to in renday.

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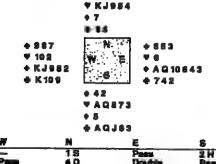
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SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent This refresher is about the use of "splinter bids". Short suits in two-suited hands are classified as follows: singletons are 'splinters", two- or three-card holdings are "fragments". Dealer North East-West game Rubber bridge AKQJ10



Contract: Six Hearts by South North's Four Diamond bid in this auction is a "splinter bid", showing good heart support, game-going values, and a singleton diamond. In this auction. Three Diamonds would be forcing with diamonds, so Four Diamonds is

Though I am not much of a one for conventional under- standings, I like splinters they are extremely useful for tracking down key singletons, and have the great theoretical plus that they use a bid not required in a natural sense. Thus they are easy to

On this deal, the splinter bid was not particularly useful, but, if South had had two small diamonds and only four clubs, an apparently worse hand. North's demonstration

Lead: Ten of clobs of a singleton diamond would have guided South to a

Normally, when you know that dummy has good trump support, a suit of his own and a singleton, it is correct to attack his "fragment", in this case clubs. East accordingly led a club, which let the He should, though, have

heeded his partner's double of Four Diamonds. Why did East double

not stand a club lead. Had West led a diamond, South would have had only 11 top tricks. To make a twelfth, he would have to finesse the queen of clubs, thus going one

CHIZZ b. Processed cheese

c. To chear

FIGURA

b. A transcendent person c. A porcelain mannekin

laydown slam. What should West lead?

North's splinter bid? it was because East could

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

BACKFISCH

a. A teenage girl b. A method of trawling c. A high counter at chemmy **FASCIOLA**

a. Grey matter b. A type of pottery c. A clown's mask

Answers on page 50



BY RAYMOND KEENE CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Prospects out

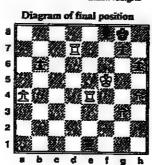
A couple of young hopefuls in the Fide championship at Groningen, Holland, failed to survive the first round mini-matches. Etierne Bacrot (France) and Peter Leko (Hungary), were eliminated

(Hungary), were eliminated respectively by Giorgadze and Slobodjan.

Meanwhile, Britain's sole representative in the first round, Peter Weils of London, fell at the first hundle to Boris Alternan of Israel. Former world champion Vassily Conscious was another delim. Veh. Smyslov was another victim. Veteran Viktor Korchnoi won his match to proceed to the second round where he plays Nige! Short, of Britain. Britain's remaining two representatives, Michael Adams and Matthew Sadler, also reached

the second round. White: Roman Slobodjan Black: Peter Leko Fide world championship

Sicillus Defence Ball4 Kh1 21 b3 22 Radi

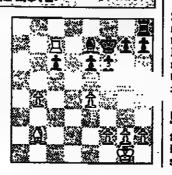


 Raymond Keene writes on chess
 Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WINNING HOVE

By Raymond Keene

Black to play. This position is from the game Lautier - Kas-parov, Tilburg, 1997. This position features an oversight by the world champion. Kasparov agreed to a draw, but he could have won a safe pawn. What did he overlook?



Embattled clubs consider the case for revolution

By MATT DICKINSON

DESPERATE times, they say, call for desperate measures and that appeared to be the case at a meeting of all 72 Football League clubs in London yesterday where pen-alty shoot-outs to decide drawn games were among the dozens of radical plans

discussed. Bonus points for teams leading at half-time, or for the margin of victory, were also put forward at the seminar as the Nationwide League clubs attempt to find revolutionary ways of increasing spectator interest and thus halt falling

David Sheepshanks, chairman of Ipswich Town and the Football League, said: "Fifty seven out of 72 clubs lost money last year. That is the

lower leagues as feeder clubs." Whether Uefa or Fifa will be keen to hear of the possible rewriting of the rules remains to be seen, and no vote will be taken until an extraordinary general meeting in February. More talks will be held next

strongest reason for change. Clearly we have to improve the product and the excitement.
"We have to be more commercially led and responsive to the demands of fans. While

there are increased opportunities for armchair viewers, we need to popularise the live experience. The average share

of TV revenue in the Premiership is £8 million. In the league it is £800,000. Many are worried that the Premier-ship clubs are leaving us behind and could use the



Sheepshanks: all options

under Sheepshanks's ambi-tious leadership, they are considering every option to try to halt the succession of clubs finding themselves in danger of going out of business. Other plans discussed yes-

terday were regionalisation of the leagues. Four options have been put forward for complete restructuring — four leagues of 18 teams, five of 12, one of 20 followed by two of 26, and the possibility of a Super League of 12 clubs followed by divisions of 24, 24 and 12. Endof-season play-offs involving twice the present number of teams promoted and relegated were also discussed.

Football League atten-dances have actually risen over the last II years, but it is only by greatly decreasing the number of "dead" fixtures that many chairmen believe their clubs can survive. ☐ Liverpool are appealing

against the Department of Employment ruling that pre-vented Brad Friedel, a goal-keeper from the United States. from moving to Anfield for £1

Telford prepare to groom successor

THE appointment of Jimmy Mullen as director of coaching this week fills Telford United with a mixture of anticipation and foreboding. Mullen, 45, has forged a fine reputation as a manager, most notably at Burnley, and Telford fear they will not be able to hold on to him.

Having lost Jake King to Shrewsbury Town in the summer after barely six months at the club, Telford followed up Mullen's appointment by announcing that they intended to recruit somebody to work aiongside him. Robert Cave, the club's public relations director, said:

Jim is ambitious and we are

trying to secure ourselves by

having someone in place should a Football League club

come in for him. It will save us the rigmarole of interviews and whoever comes into the club can tap into Jim's vast well of experience." One of three surviving

founder members — along-side Kettering Town and Northwich Victoria — Telford's poor form in the Vauxhall Conference spelt the end to the brief reign of Steve Daley, the former Wolverhampion Wanderers and Manchester City player. We decided on Monday that we should part with Steve," Cave said. "We'd played 21 competitive matches under Steve and won only three. We felt we had to make the change

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL BY WALTER GAMMIE The appointment of Daley

after a long spell out of the game had been a gamble. "Steve gave us 100 per cent and was very unlucky with injuries and suspensions but the fact is that we're third bottom of the league and have amassed 15 points."

An FA Cop defeat by Bedworth United, of the Dr Martens League midland division, an attendance of 518 for the last home match against Morecambe - Telford's lowest ever in the league - and four consecutive Conference defeats brought the curtain down on a hunch

that did not pay off.

Tellingly, Telford's talismanic forwards, Jon Purdie.

who has returned from injury only in the past month, and Tim Langford, who has a cruciate ligament injury, have played little part.

Mullen starts with a trip to Stalybridge Celtic, who, along with Kettering and Gates-head, two other struggling teams, are the only side Telford have beaten this Stalybridge dismissed Brian Kettle as manager two

weeks ago and have brought in Colin Richardson, the for-mer Gateshead manager, as assistant to Mark Hine, his captain at the International ... Stadium, who has been made the temporary player manager. It promises to be a bloodand-thunder introduction to

RUGBY UNION

Brittle charts new path for English game

CLIFF BRITTLE, the chairman of the Rugby Football Union (RFU) board of management, yesterday challenged the game at large to accept a vision of English rugby in the new millennium that tears up most of the preconceptions now

In a policy document that he will take to the country next month, Brittle outlines a clear division between the professional and amateur arms and insists that the majority of clubs in England - and in other countries - will have to revert to amateurism because the finances of the game do not give them any choice. He addresses what he describes

as the "helplessness and hopelessness" felt by clubs up and down the country by proposing the creation of five provincial unions, each with their own professional executive but run on semi-autonomous lines and with the power to structure the game, within their own geographi-cal area, in the way they believe to be the most suitable.

Brittle has worked on "Rugby Restructure 2000" with a close-knit group of supporters, including Fran Cotton and Graeme Cattermole, and in consultation with the national team management, all of whom were at Twickenham yesterday to hear his presentation. That it has yet to be debated by the full council of the RFU, the status of whose members would be much reduced under the terms of the proposals, is neither here nor there if the game faces up to fundamental decisions on how it should be run in the future.

In effect. Brittle has abandoned the principle of a "seamless" game and seeks a professional arm consisting of Club England and the English Rugby Partnership clubs, at present numbering 24. Though the definition of amateurism has yet to be settled, all other clubs would form the amateur backbone of the game, with their own competitions building into an amateur England team that would play its own representative matches.

The present situation is unsustainable, and that's not just in our union but worldwide," Brittle said. Unless we do something about it, and quickly, then the sport is in serious danger. I have spoken with other unions, including those from the southern hemisphere, and the word on their lips is 'amateur'."

It is Brittle's contention that poor financial planning by previous RFU administrations has created a situation in which money is draining away, in which clubs are reducing the numbers of teams they run and administrators at junior clubs are being overloaded with work. Money coming into the game is being used to pay players and coaches rather

than being allocated in ways that create effective growth at all levels. He acknowledges that investment must be made in Club England the national team at senior. A and under-21 levels - because the RFU's revenue streams stand or fall by their success.

Brittle also advocates the establishment of RFU TV, a television company run by the union and producing its own signal from Twickenham. That would be a key component in raising revenue from its present annual total of around £50 million to some £300 million within the next ten years.

"Over the next few years there will be massive changes in broadcasting and Internet services," Britsaid. Existing contracts. broadcast and commercial, would be honoured but most expire around 2000 and Brittle seeks to build a healthier future for the RFU over the following period. To do that, however, he seeks agreement over the next seven months that would involve the management powers of the RFU council and committees being handed over to the management board, to the professional staff in their designated areas of expertise and to the provincial unions.

The present culture and structure of the RFU is an impediment to the development of the game in England," Brittle said. Armed with the results of a poll of member clubs, he will take his vision on the road in January and hopes that the package can be implemented, in practice or in theory, by the annual meeting in July so that a stronger. leaner game will emerge in the new



The sky is the limit for Lewis Capes, according to Bob Dwyer, the Leicester coach, who has been instrumental in the former American footballer making the switch to rugby union. Capes, pictured after signing for the Midlands club yesterday, is likely to play in the second row as he made such an impression in the ineouts when playing for the Leicester Development XV last weekend, taking every ball thrown, by Leicester and the opposition. "Lewis has the highest jump in the club, which is unusual for someone of his size," Dwyer

said. Dwyer is convinced that Capes, son of Geoff, the former Great Britain shot putter. can make a successful transition, even at the age of 27 and even though he has not played rugby since he left school. "Of course, it's a gamble," Dwyer said. "But we have studied the form before we laid the bet." Capes, 6ft 4in and 22 stone, has signed a two-year deal and is confident that he has made the right move. "I have had rugby in mind for the last couple of years," Capes said. "I know a lot of hard work will have to be done, because I can't just walk

into a club like this and expect to play. But the club puts a lot of store in developing players. I know I have to be developed, and that's what I want." Capes will undoubtedly find it hard to break into the Leicester first team as the club's first-choice pack contains seven internationals and four members of the British Isles squad that toured South Africa last summer. However, Geoff Capes remains in no doubt as to his son's prowess. "He's quicker than Lomu, stronger than Lomu and bigger than Lomu, Capes Sr said yesterday.

Rodber may resume for Northampton



TIM RODBER, concussed while leading an English Rugby Partner-

By David Hands

been done correctly," lan Mc-Geechan, the director of rugby at Franklin's Gardens, said.

bit to return after missing England's four autumn internationals, not to re-establish his credentials with the new team management, but also because Northampton are three from the bottom of the Allied Dunbar Premiership first division. They have won only once in five outings (against Leicester), although, as McGeechan observed, only four points separate the bottom

"The sooner we get ourselves into action, the better," he said. North-

ampton, however, will be without Martin Bayfield, the England lock. who is still struggling with inflam-mation to the groin. Wasps, ahead of Northampton on points difference, welcome back Alex King at fly half for their derby game with Harlequins at the Stoop memorial ground and give Jonathan Ions a run at open-side flanker.

In a week in which there has been growing criticism of the number of overseas players in the Premiership. Saracens give debuts to Roberto Grau, the Argentina prop, and Gavin Johnson, the South Africa full back, against Bath at Warford on Sunday. Saracens. unbeaten in six outings, lead the first division. but face a stern examination.

trously, losing their opening

pair in Klusener's first over.

Cairns smashed five quick

fours before he swung once too

often at Klusener and was

Stephen Fleming and Craig McMillan grafted hard but

found even singles difficult. Impatience finally cost both

their wickets. Fleming driving

loosely at Symoox and being

caught at deep mid-off and

McMillan holing out to mid-

bowled.

SNOOKER

Doherty's will to win denies Burnett

FROM PHIL YATES IN BINGEN

KEN DOHERTY used his renowned fighting qualities to recover from 3-1 and then 4-3 down to defeat Jamie Burnett 5-4 in the quarter-finals of the German Open at the Atlantis Rhein Hotel here yesterday.

The world champion, who, with the exception of his triumph in the Rothmans Malta Grand Prix last season, has endured disappointing form recently, quickly found himself in unexpected trouble.

Burnett, a 22-year-old from Hamilton, who has never progressed further than the last 32 of a world-ranking event during five years on the professional circuit, comfortably won the opening two frames with breaks of 94 and 51 to suggest that he was capable of causing an upset.

Doherty fortuitously doubled the black off two cushions to a baulk pocket to steal the third before Burnett, who surprisingly eliminated Ste-phen Hendry from the Grand Prix in October, accounted for a scrappy fourth frame to move 3-1 ahead at the midsession interval.

A clearance of 103 earned Doherty the fifth frame and when he drew level by adding the sixth, Burnett, considering his inexperience at top level. was entitled to feel he was about to be engulfed.

Instead, the former United Kingdom junior champion fashioned a 59 break to regain the advantage at 4-3, but Doherty battled through a 40-minute eighth frame and then won the decider, another tense affair full of safety, on the green.

"I can't believe how hard ! had to work for that," Doherty said. "Jamie's safety was excellent all day and that made my life quite difficult. It's a big relief because, as world champion, you always feel an extra responsibility to prove your-

Doherty now meets Hendry or John Parrott in the semifinals. Hendry, who remains favourite to win the £50,000 first prize despite failing to win a tournament since the Benson and Hedges Irish Masters in March, showed ominous intensity during an impressive 5-2 victory over Jimmy White in the last to on Wednesday.

He leads Parrott, another old adversary. 19-3 in career meetings and will not lack motivation to improve that record after his 6-5 defeat, on home soil, in the quarter-finals of the Regal Scottish Masters at Motherwell three months



ship XV against the New Zealanders at Bristol last month, is likely to return to action with Northampton tomorrow. Rodber has trained with the squad to play London Irish at Sunbury and is expected to play, although the XV will not be con-

firmed until tomorrow. The recommended rest period for a concussion is 2! days, but Interna-tional Rugby Football Board regulations offer a proviso, depending upon medical advice. Rodber, who was injured on November 25, has been cleared after having a neurological scan at Northampton General Hospital. "We have pulled out all the stops to make sure things have

Rodber will be champing at the

clubs from Sale, who are third.

top of the table, their batsmen have still to exceed 200 in four matches and 174 for eight against New Zealand was

Only when Klusener, who went in at No 3, took a shine to the bowling of Shayne O'Connor did South Africa threaten to post a big total. First with Herschelle Gibbs and then with Pat Symcox, Klusener kept the rate at around four an over, despite Chris Cairns

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

Then Harris and Gavin Larsen combined to slow the rate to a crawl. At 71, Symcox hit a return catch to Harris. then Hansie Cronie and Klusener were run out as three wickets fell for two runs. Jonty Rhodes, trying to paddle a ball from Daniel Vettori down to fine leg, was bowled round his

legs.
When Shaun Pollock hit
Nathan Astle for four in the fortieth over, it was the first boundary for 54 minutes. Jacques Kallis went for 45. after Harris juggled and finalheld his second return catch, but Pollock stayed unril the last ball, from which he

was caught in the deep. New Zealand started disas-

Adam Parore was run out by Kallis, Roger Twose chipped to Gary Kirsten at mid-wicket and New Zealand were III for seven. Harris. who made 37, and Ventori (25) regained most of the lost ground, but their partnership of 62 was not quite enough.

wicket off a full toss.

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• Franks warms to the task Franks, of Nottinghamshire, THE SAPPING Cape Town FROM JOHN STERN heat took its toll on England who dismissed Andrew Put-IN CAPE TOWN

Under-19's inexperienced touring party, many of whom have played little cricket abroad, towards the end of the first day of the first four-day international match against South Africa Under-19 at Newlands yesterday.

Having clawed their way back during the post-lunch session, England were unable to contain South Africa's middle order, and Grant Elliott in particular.

The home side finished the day on 285 for six, fractionally ahead on points. On the basis of recent under-19 series between Pakistan and these two sides, a score in excess of 250 is likely to be a challenging one. However, this is a good wicket with mostly even bounce and it is likely to become quicker as the game progresses.

Perhaps inexperience also was also evident in the number of overs bowled, although in these days of slow over-rates it would be churlish to criticise a team too heavily for bowling 97 overs in a day. However, Elliott and Jacques Rudolph, the left-

hander, flourished off the last ten overs, against the new ball, and added 82 in only 85 minutes for the seventh wicket. Elliott, who played for South Africa Under-19 this time last year against Pakistan, pulled the last ball of the day from Graham Napier to the mid-wicket boundary.

England, who lost the toss. made an excellent start through their captain, Paul

SCOREBOARD

SOUTH AFRICA UNDER-19: First imnings

ALING: Logan 19-2-58-0; Franks 24-6-t; Naper 6-1-26-0; Schotteld 15-1-54-0, nn 33-5-86-3. Swann 33-5-85-3.
ENGLAND UNDER-19: R W T Key, S D Reters, I N Flansgan, G P Swarm, M A Gough, G R Haywood, G R Napser, *P J Franks, C P Schoheld, †N J Wilton, R J Logan
Umpires: P Reypert and J Pelekar

tick and Justin De Nobrega in the space of five balls. However, from 12 for two, South Africa recovered to be 107 for two at lunch, thanks to Matthew Street, their captain. who, surprisingly, has not played first or second-team cricket for Gauteng, his prov-Street's timing was superb

and he reached the boundary ten times in making 79 before he was caught and bowled by Graeme Swann, the off

> By that stage, England had regained their hold on the game. Swann bowled a fine spell of 16 overs, unchanged between lunch and tea, taking two for 29.

Franks also bowled with impressive control after lunch, revelling in a fascinating contest with Street. He conceded only ten runs in ten overs after lunch and took the wicket of Morne van Wyk. Unfortunately, he was less effective with the new ball, but he will be fresh this morning and hoping to prevent South Africa from reaching 350.

Tough route lies ahead for England

CRICKET: SOUTH AFRICA'S UNDER-19 TEAM TAKES TOLL OF ENGLAND WHILE SENIOR TEAM CONTINUES TO PROSPER IN AUSTRALIA

AFTER several restful days in Hyderabad, the England women's team were made brutally aware of the obstacles to be overcome if they are to retain the World Cup (Thrasy Petropolous writes).

A 3.30am alarm call preceded a seven-hour train ride to Vijayawada, where they play Pakistan today. Vijayawada is an industrial

town 175 miles east of Hyderabad seldom visited by tourists. The only great attraction is a temple dedicated to the city's patron goddess, Kanaka Durga, goddess of riches, power and benevolence. Be-nevolence this place has in abundance: riches and power it most certainly lacks.

England should easily beat a weak Pakistan side that lost to Denmark by eight wickets on Wednesday. Furthermore, the luckless Pakistanis' train journey to Vijayawada followed a flight from Bangalore to Hyderabad that was delayed for more than five

Klusener keeps his nerve

CHRIS HARRIS, who needed to hit the last ball for six to give New Zealand a World Series Cup win over South Africa in Hobart yesterday, was thwart-ed by Lance Klusener, who produced a delivery of nearyorker length that Harris could only edge for four, leaving South Africa the winners by one run.

Klusener, who won his second successive man-of-thematch award after making 37 and taking three for 46, had inspired South Africa to a 45run win over Australia in Melbourne on Tuesday with a

return of five for 24. Although South Africa are another disappointing effort.

delivering a miserly opening spell of seven overs for 12 runs.

HOCKEY: WORLD CUP TRAINING MAKES INCREASING DEMANDS ON ENGLAND PLAYERS

Loughtonians hoping to cut Cannock lead

BY SYDNEY FRISKIN

THE 27 contenders for places in England's World Cup squad who had been involved in a three-day training camp at Lilleshall returned to their clubs yesterday to prepare for ther round of matches in the National League on Sunday, the last before the

Michigan

winter break. Cannock will attempt to stretch their four-point lead in the premier division with an unchanged side against Old Loughtonians, who have a couple of scores to settle. Earlier in the season Cannock heat them 2-1 and knocked them out of the EHA Cup a fortnight ago. These were the only clubs to emerge from the double-header skirmishes last week with full points. Thompson will travel with the Old Loughtonian party, but knee trouble means that he is unlikely to play.

Although Southgate will be without John Shaw, who is abroad, they are expected to have the edge over their

visitors. Beeston, who put them out of the cup, while Reading, in sixth position, have a chance to make up ground in their home match against Doncaster, who lost the first encounter 4-1 but have since raised their game.

Reading will be without Kochar, who has gone into hospital for a leg operation and will be out of action until the new year. England's next training session, in Sicily for a week from January 7, under their new coach. Barry Dancer, will handicap Reading, who are taking part in the Los Reys tournament in Barcelona at the same

A knee operation means that Luckes, the East Grinstead goalkeeper, will miss the visit to Canterbury and with Griffiths and McConnell unavailable, the defence is well below strength. Canterbury, too, are without their goalkeeper, Triggs, who has not recovered from an injury received last week.

Students and clubs face testing programme

ENGLAND'S intensive build-up to the 1998 women's hockey World Cup is placing increasing pressure on the 13 students in the training squad, who are trying to meet their playing and academic demands. It is also expected to take its toll on clubs who will be required to release players for mid-

week training camps. The international programme before the World Cup, in May, includes a tour to Australia next month, possible matches at home against Russia, Scotland and Australia, and away to Holland, and a four nations' tourna-

ment in the United States. One member of the England party, Lucilla Wright, is studying for her A levels. Kirsty Bowden, 19, the midfield player, a second-year law student at Birmingham University, has been given permission to sit her examinations in August.

Greenham, the England

Under-21 captain, is studying for an MSc in information technology at Loughborough University. "It's not an insurmountable problem and I still believe it's possible to combine work and sport," she said.

When the Women's National Hockey League resumes after the winter break in February, clubs will lose their England players to four midweek training camps. Maggie Souyave, the England coach, said: The priority is the World Cup and no one in their right mind would disagree. It could have been a lot worse and although I've tried hard to consider the situation.

but clubs will be inconvenienced." Olton's coach, Gavin Featherstone, understands, but said: "You can't run roughshod over the national league. A club coach needs at least nine weeks to build up consistency and continuity. Our young international players are on a frightening merry-go-round."



Young blades steer collision course



Nilsson, second from left, feels the impact as the blades of the two trial boats clash on the Thames yesterday. Photograph: Marc Aspland

THE aggressive tactics of the cox-swains of the Oxford University trial eights. Alex Greaney and Neil O'Donnell, produced a fiercely competitive race on the Thames yesterday, although neither man endeared himself either to their coaches or, indeed, the umpire, Terry Dillon.

The two crews, which included six Blues, three full internationals and the usual multinational mix — three Americans, an Australian, a Swede, a German - raced for nine minutes before the last of a series of blade

clashes caused the race to be halted just before Chiswick Eyot. Approaching Harrods, O'Donnell

coxing Maverick, appeared to be pushing Iceman over, although Dilion was warning Iceman. A clash of blades followed, leaving Henrik Nilsson, the stroke of Maverick, flat on his back. They began again but then came a further crash, which left James Roycroft, the Maverick No 6, with a spaghetti-shaped rigger.

The final race was won convincingly by Iceman, unsurprisingly since

Roycroft was an effective spectator. Sean Bowden, the new Oxford coach, took the coxes away for a "private chat" after the race and Steve Royle, the Oxford rowing director, talked of "castigation. Between them they ruined a good race."

Bowden decided to stage a further race, from Hammersmith to Putney, yesterday afternoon. Maverick, on the Surrey station, took an early lead but Iceman nibbled back and won by a canvas. There were, thankfully, no clashing problems.

ICEMAN: Bow, R H Evelyn (Eton and Lincoin); 2, S W LyaB-Cotile (King's, Chester/Shrewsbury and Orief); 3, O J T Jones (Metrican Taylors' and S Cathenine's); 4, T H Ayer (Burlington HS, Vennort and Worcester); 5, E R Coods (Eton and Keble); 8, * A J R Lindeay (Sten and Brasenoss); 7, * P A Berger (Mission Bay HS and Lincoin); Stroke, * N J Robinson - (Hampton and Lincoin); Stroke, * N J Robinson - (Hampton and Stroke); * A Greenore (Abbrindon, and St

MAVERCK: Bow, T A Doyle (Chaltenham and Steimund Hall): 2, E W T Foster (Bon and Steimund Hall): 2, S M Geleve (Knox GS, Australia and College); 5, J Heckit (Sted Gym, Welter, Germany and Koble); 8, "J B Roycrott (Elon and Koble); 7, "C P A Humphreys (Hampston and Orall; Stroke, L H K Nitseon (Cathedral School, Lund, Sweden and Herland); Cax, N J O'Doranell (St Jesepha Cl, Buttelo and Koble).

SWIMMING: CONFUSION AS OFFICIALS ORDER SECOND RACE FOR BRITISH TITLE

Time stands still for Hickman

JAMES HICKMAN had no sooner won the 200 metres butterfly at the British championships yesterday, thereby booking his place in the team for the world championships, than he was told he would have to swim the race again on Sunday to be confirmed as national champion.

Hickman, 21, clocked Imin 58.33sec, seemingly to retain his title, swimming in lane four at Ponds Forge in Shef-field. However, Eddie Clement, in lane three, had dislodged the top of the start-

Answers from page 48

BACKFISCH

pool. A protest was lodged by ian Turner, coach to Clement at the University of Bath. Officials and coaches went

into a huddle to pray for clarity and it was an hour before the white smoke went It was decided that the

for the national title, but Hickman's time - good enough to have won him the silver medal at the European championships in Spain last August had food poisoning not kept him out of the race would stand and ensure his

WORD WATCHING

(c) As a verb "to cheat or swindle". As a noun chiz(z) is a swindle or a

nuisance. A shortened form of the verb to chise!. "I suppose Wemys wasn't a member of the Black Spot" "I should think he jolly well

(b) In literary jargon, a figura is a person who represents some higher or supervening reality. The Latin for "a figure". "The poet wants us to connect the Troy legend with the theme of his poem and to see in Aeneas a figura of his own hero."

(a) A girl in late adolescence, a teenager. In German, literally, "a fish for buking". "Marlene Dietrich conjures up the little Berlin backfisch who anditioned for The Blue Angel."

(a) In full, fasciola cinerea, in Latin, small, grey bandage. A thin layer of grey matter that forms the posterior continuation of the dentate gyrus in the hippocampal formation of the brain.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

I, . . . c5: wins a clear pawn as if 2, bxc5 Rb8 wins the bishop. 2, Bc3 Rb8 or 2, b5 Rb8 also leave Black a clear pawn ahead.

onships, in Perth, Australia, next month. The national title will be

contested again at the end of the last session on Sunday, while the race yesterday will be treated as a world champlonship time-trial", enabling Hickman's effort to be regisswimmers would race again tered on the world-ranking list at No 7 for this year, ahead of the Imin 58.78sec that brought Stephen Parry, of Liverpool, the bronze medal at the Euro-

pean championships. Parry, already selected for Perth, did not race yesterday, but will do battle with Hickman in the 100 metres

Hickman said that his long-course title to the world short-course title he claimed in Sweden last spring, had been revived. This was "a clean break with the past."

A finalist at the Olympic Games in Atlanta last year, Hickman had said that he had four years before him in which to "pick off the other eight men in the final" if he were to fulfil his ambition of winning gold in Sydney in 2000.

Events last summer, however, proved that life is never quite that simple.

After the disappointment of the European championships, Hickman decided to split from Dave Calleja, his coach at Stockport, and he will make a decision about his future when he returns from Perth. "After

back on form and my Olympic goal is clearly in view," he said. "I've still been training 60,000 [metres] a week these past three weeks and there's a lot more rest in me yet. It means I'm back again, up among the top ten in the

Paul Palmer and Graem Smith: Britain's -two medalwinners in Atlanta, took the first two placings in the 400 metres freestyle.

world, and in with a great

Palmer, of the University of Bath, won the Olympic silver medal over that distance.

while Smith, a team-mate of Hickman at Stockport, won the Olympic bronze medal in the 1,500 metres. Both swimmers had already been selected for Perth.

Fifteen-year-old Melanie Marshall, of Boston, Lincolnshire, is likely to be the youngest member of the world championship squad. Her third placing in the 100

metres freestyle behind the more experienced Claire Huddart, of Leeds, and Karen Pickering, of Ipswich, was good enough to earn her a place in the 4 x 100 metres



Hickman: fast time on eve of world championships

GRRRASP THE MOMENT Just roll it round your tongue. GRRRAHAM'S GRAHAM'S PORT THE PORT OF AUTHORITY

TELEVISION CHOICE Dunkirk beaches revisited

BBC2, 8.00pm

For the first time in this series our learned and enthusiastic presenter, Richard Holmes, is able to draw upon first-hand testimony. He has done wonders so far without such help but there is wonders so far without such help but there is nothing like hearing it from the soldiers who were there, and, for that matter, having film to back up their accounts. Holmes rightly points out that although at the time Dunkirk was presented as a British triumph, this is not how it was seen by the many French troops left behind to face the German onslaught. Nor, as Churchill admitted, are wars were hear transported to the second to the won by evacuations. As these accounts stress, the exercise was often chaotic and ill-disciplined, with a large element of improvisation provided by the legendary little ships. But it was a brave and defiant gesture which raised morale at a bad time.

The Bill ITV. 8.00pm

Friends of The Bill who feel that the show is in need of refreshment will have noted with approval the recent move towards multi-episode stones. The recent two-parter which put poor Sergeant Ackland behind bars was an effective attentiongrabber and now we have a three-parter, no less, which also serves to launch Sun Hill's latest recruit, PC Ashton (Scott Neal). He is a probationer and barely looks old enough for the job. Come to that, his mother is youthful enough to be mistaken for his girfriend and duly is. But such jokes are soon pushed aside as PC Ashton's first taste of duty sees him having to cope with a fatality when a teenage glue-sniffer falls from a roof. As Tom Needham's lively scenario continues next week look out for Rik Mayall in a straight role as the dead boy's feckless father.

Channel 4, 9.00pm

Radio 2, 9.15pm

As this episode was about to go before the carnera, Billy Crystal and Robin Williams were making the film Father's Day on the same lot. The pair had a bit of time on their hands so why not, some bright spark suggested, do a guest appearance on Friends? And here they are, in the Central Perk bar, as two characters at odds over one of their

Crystal and Williams join the gang (C4)

wives. It is no more than a cameo, and does not wives. It is no more than a camed, and does not survive beyond the opening credits, but it makes a good gag. British sitcoms, where this never seems to happen, should take note. The diversion is welcome as otherwise Friends is stuck in familiar grooves. Monica acquires an unsuitable boyfriend, so there is nothing user there, and Buchal is included. so there is nothing new there, and Rachel is jealous over Ross's new date. In a running joke which over russ; new ourse in a running joke which outstays its welcome Chandler keeps getting his bottom slapped. The slapper is his boss and it is his way of showing approval.

The Wogan Years BBC1. 10.20pm

Terry Wogan is such a smooth operator, damn Terry Wogan is such a smooth operator, damn him, that you almost hope that his shows will go wrong. But to the man's credit he is never too embarrassed to own up to his sticky moments or to run them again. This latest compilation from the Wogan chat show contains the statutory quota of Hollywood stars plugging books and films, as well as the television debut of Rory Bremner and a flamboyant, if not always coherent, contribution from Butterfly McQueen, the last surviving cast member of Gone With the Wind. But it is another man of Hollywood, Leslie Nielsen, who will stay longest in the memory. In the middle of a routine patter, no doubt about his latest film, he broke wind. The funny thing was not so much the event itself but the alternpts of Nielsen and a corpsing Wogan to extricate themselves. Peter Waynark

The Food Programme Radio 4. 12.25pm I suppose that one of the perks of doing a programme like this is that from time to time you get out of the office to see what is cooking in some exotic corner of the world. Today Derek Cooper,

I have to say that I rather like the Radio 2 idea of a book reading at this hour of the evening, a neat change of pace at the right time of day on the right day of the week. Tonight sees the beginning of an eight-part reading by Hywel Bennett of Dracula, the classic horror novel by Bram Stoker, which is seed the part of the by visiting, er, New Malden. That is the New Malden in Surrey, there being no New Malden on the 38th parallel. Ah well. Cooper may be pleased he decided not to visit South Korea, which the well known to most people in various dramatic guises but I suspect not known to many in its original form. More is the pity for this is tremendous writing, done full justice by Bernett, who says that he was surprised to realise how good a book Dracula is. Part of its quality lies in the business pages suggest may have to hold a closing down sale before much longer. But the programme says that there will at least be buyers for Korean food, which is mooted as the Next Big Thing in cuisine stand by for various kinds of cabbage, more often than not pickled.

Peter Barnard contrast between the horror of Count Dracula and

the naivety of Harker, the young English solicitor who tells the tale. RADIO 1

6.50em Kevin Greening and Zoé Bell 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Jo Whiley, Includes 12.30pm Newsbest 2.00 Merk Redolfde 4.00 Deve Peerce 5.45 Newsbest 6.00 Pete Tong: Essendal Selection 9.00 Judge Jules 11.00 Westwood: Radio 1 Rep Show 2.00em One in the Jungle 4.00 Charlie Jundlen RADIO 2

6.00mm Serah Kennedy 7.30 Weke Up to Wogen 8.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 1.30pm Debbie Thrower 3.00 Ed Stawert 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 Hubert Gregg 7.30 Fridey Night is Music Night 9.15 Dracuta. See Choice (1/8) 9.30 Listen to the Band 10.00 The Arts Programme with Sharidan Modey ; 12.05em Charles Nove 4.00 Diane Louise Jordan

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00mm The Breakdast Programme 9.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00 Mickey with Mair 2.00pes Ruscoa on Pive 4.00 Nationwide 7.00 News Estra with Annie Webster 7.30 Alan Green's Sportstalk A debate on the week's sporting issues 8.30 Pricial Sport Includes Ceford v QPR. Plus Richard Dunwoody on the current racing source 19.00 Paper Talk 11.00 News Extra 12.00 After Hours 2.00ems Up All Night 5.00 Morning Reports

5,00em Jeremy Clerk 7.00 Lynn Parache 10.00 (FM) Robin Banks (AM) Graham Dene 1.00pm (FM) Nick Abbot (MW) Nicky Home 4,00 Russ 'n' Jono 7.00 (FM) Paul Coyle (AM) Calmin Jones 10.00 Mark Forest 2.00am Richard Poter

TALK RADIO

6.30em Bill Overton and Carol McGiffen 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00 Lorraine Kelly 2.00pm Tommy Boyd 4.00 Peter Deeley 7.00 Moz Dee's Sportszone 10.00 Milks Allen 1.00em Milks

WORLD SERVICE

8,00mm Neweday 6.15 Europe Today 7.00 News 7.15 Off the Shelf 7.30 Music Review 8.00 News 8.10 Pause for Thought 3.15 Westvery 8.30 John Peel 9.00 News, News in Garmen 648 only) 9.05 World Business Report 9.15 Children in Convensation 9.30 BBC English: Speaking of English 9.45 Sports Roundup 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 Assignment 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Focus on Feith 12.00 News 12.05pm World Business Report 12.15 British Today 12.30 Founders of their Fallin 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 Newshour 2.00 News 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Multitrack: Alternative 3.00 News: News 1n, German (648 only) 3.05 Football Entra 3.15 Journey to the Contra of the Atom 3.30 Science in Action 4.00 News 4.15 On Your Behalf 4.30 The World Today: News in German (648 only) Centre of the Atom 3.30 Science in Action 4.00 News 4.15 On Your Behall 4.30 The World Today, News in German (648 only) 4.45 Britain Today 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Sports Roundup 6.00 Newsclesk 6.30 Focus oru-Pelit; News in German (648 only) 7.00 News 7.07 Outlook 7.25 Pause for Thought 7.30 Multitrack Alternative 8.00; Newsclesk 10.30 News 9.05 World Eusiness Report 9.15 Britain Today 9.30 People and Politics 10.00 Newsclesk 10.30 The World Today 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.90 News 11.95 Outlook 11.30 Multitrack Alternative 12.00 Newsclesk 12.30 Messclesk 12.30 Messclesk 12.45 Britain Today 1.90 Newsclesk 13.0 Just a Minute 2.00 Newsclesk 13.0 People and Politics 3.00 News 3.05 World Business Report 3.15 Sports Roundup 3.30 Science in Action 4.00 Newsclesk 4.30 The World Today 4.45 Off the Shell

CLASSIC FM

6.00mm Nick Belley with Moming March and Brealdest Baroque 9.00 Henry Kelly. Michael Barry's Classic Racips is chocolate and chestrul routeds. Plus, Classic Masterpiece and Keity's Club Sandwich 1,00pm Listener Request Hour with Jane Jones 2,00 Concerto, Ravel (Pisno Concerto for the Left Hand) 3,00 Jamie Crick 6,30 Newsnight 7,00 Smooth Classics Hand) 3.00 Jamie Crick 6.30 Newsnight 7.00 Smooth Clessos at Seven with John Brunning 8.00 Evening Concert. Bach (Orchestral Sutte No 3 in D); Sir Arthur Biss (Canasta — The World is Charged with the Grandaux of God); C.P.E. Bach. (Magnificat in D minor) 10,00 Michael Mappin 2,00ees Concerto (r) 4.00 Sally Peterson

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6.90cm On Air, with Stephanie Hughes, Includes
Beethoven (Violin Sonata in G); Hendel (Organ
Concerto in B fatt); Bernstein (Overture Candide);
Debussy (Reflets dans l'Eau, Images); Bizet (La
Masque); Copland (Four Dence Episodes, Rodeo)
9.00 Morning Collection, with Peter Hobday,
Telemann (Concerto in E flat for two horne);
Schumenn (Violin Sonata No 2 in D minor);
Mystivicek (Wind Octet No 2 in E flat)
10.00 Musical Encoumbers, Vaughan Williams (Overture
Henry V); Byrd (O Mistress Mine); Grainger (O
Mistress Mine); Tchallovsky (Begle); Walton
(Violin Concerto); Schubert (Psatin 23); Hertike
(Ascent of the Equestrian); Nedbal (Valse Triste);
Britten (World of the Spirit, excerpts); Strauss
(Festmusik der Stadt Wien)
12.00 Composer of the Weelc Goehr

(Festmusik der Stadt Wien)

1.2.00 Composer of the Weelc Goehr

1.00pm Redio 3 Lonchtime Concert. David Pyett, hom, Martin Jones, plano. Danzi (Hom Sonata in E flat); Strauss (Andante, AV86a); Mendelssohn (Andante and Rondo capriccloso); Hindentith (Hom Sonata)

2.00 The BBC Archive. A tribute to George Melcolm, character, secondarby, lagracteronics and

choirmaster, conductor, harpsichordist and teacher. Introduced by Sandy Burnett with contributions from Stephen Cleobury and len stored. The final concert from Radio 3's

special day of Invitation Concerts at the Royal Academy of Music, celebrating the musical fife of late 18th-century London. The Choir of New College, Oxford, under by Edward Higginbottom,

performs church anthems by Jonathan Battishill, John Stanley and William Crotch 4.45 Music Machine, with Torrary Peerson 5.00 in Tune, with Seen Rafferty, Music tonight includes Strauss's Four Last Songs performed by KM Te Kanawa 4.00 Performance on 3.4 concept in a familiar

Kri. Te Kanawa

7.30 Performance on 3. A concert given in April in Symphony Hail, Birmingham, Ruth Ziesak, soprano, Elisabeth von Magnus, contratto, Paul Agnew, tanor, Klaus Martens, bass, Amsterdam Baroque choir and Orchestra under Ton Koopman, Bach (Cantata No 75: Die Elemden Sollen Essen: Cantata No 104: Du Hirte Israel, Hore; Cantata No 76: Die Himmel Erzählen die ehre Gottes)

Solien Essen; Camana No 104; Du ninte Israel,
Hore; Cantata No 76: Die Himmel Erzählen die
eine Gottes)

9.00 Postscript: Young Screenwritters. Christopher
Cook talks to Daniel Waters, writer of Batman
Returns, Heethers and Hudson Hewk (4/4)

9.25 Borodin. (String Quartet No 2 in D), performed by
the Esconora Quartet

10.00 Hear and Now (Sounding the Century). The
final programme from the Huddensfield
Contemporary Music Festival. This ensembles Ars
Nova and Accroche Note, with Francoise Kubler,
soprano, Armand Angster, clarinet, and Philippe
Nathon, director, give the UK premieres of recent
works including Cascarndo. Comodeia and Aria

11.30 Composer of the Weets Cole Porter (f)

12.30am Kenton's Innovations A profile of the
American piantst and composer Stan Kenton, who
died in 1979 (1/4) (f)

1.00 Through the Night, with Donald Macleod

5.55am (LW) Shipping Forecast 6.00 Naws Briefing 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6:30 Today 8.40 Yesterday in Parlament 8.58 Weether 9.00 News 9.05 Desert Istand Discs. Sue Lawley's castaway is the artist Paula Rego (r) 9.45 Feedback. Chris Dunkley airs Isteners' comments on BBC policy and programming.

9.45 Feedback. Chris Dunkley airs listeners' comments on BBC policy and programming 10.00 (FM) News; Let's Dencet The last of the series takes a look at how present-day parties compare with the balls of the past (A/4) 10.00 (LW) An Act of Worship 10.15 (LW) On This Day, with Geoffrey Wheeler 10.39 Woman's Hour. From Menchester 11.30 The Natural History Programme. Presented by with Joarna Prinock.

with Joerna Pinnock

12.00 News, You and Yours, Consumer news and current effects with Mark Whittaker

12.25pm The Food Programme. See Choice 12.55

Wester

Weather

1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke

1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast

2.00 News; Classic Serial: War and Pesce. A
dramatisation of Leo Tolstoy's epic novel,
dramatisated by Marcy Kahan and Mike Walker

(A) 100 (r) (4/10) (r) 3.00 The Aftern

(4/10) (r)
3.00 The Artemoon Shift, with Leurie Taylor
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Tim Mariow reflects
on the opening of a new Getty museum in Los
Angeles and an extibition of Bernard Leach's rork at the Crafts Council

4.45 Short Story: Magic, by Gee Williams, read by Richard Ellyn (r)

5.00 PM, with Clare English and Chris Lowe 5.50
Shipping Forecest 5.55 Weather
6.00 Stx O'Clock News
6.30 Going Places. David Stafford presents more ideas for the weekend ahead
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Pick of the Weak, Presented by Chris Serie
8.05 Any Questions? Jonathan Dimbleby and guests debate Issues raised in Carlisle, Cumbria.
Penelists include Jancis Robinson
8.50 Law in Action, with Marcel Berlins. Includes a look at the victims charter to see whether it has made a real difference
9.15 Letter from America, by Alistaic Cooks
9.30 Kaleidoscope Foeture: Level 440, Tim Malyon investigates the art and outure surrounding South Croity in Cambourne, Europe's last working tin mine (r) 9.59 Weather
10.00 The World Tonlight, with Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtimes Candide. Anton Lesser reads Voltairs's classic satire (5/8)
11.00 Week Ending. A satirical review of the week, with Sally Grace, Jon Glover, Dave Lamb and Sarah
Parkinson

Parkinson

11.25 Fourth Column. A sideways look at the week's events with the usual learn

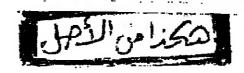
11.45 Today in Parliament. A roundup of the day's news from Westminster

12.00 News 12.30cm The Late Book: Metroland. Writina and read by Julian Barnes (10/10) (r)

12.48 Shipping Forecast

1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE, RADIO 1. FM 97.6-9.8, RADIO 2. FM 85.0-90.2, RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4, RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720, RADIO 5 LIVE, MW 633, 909, WORLD SERVICE, MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am)., CLASSIC FM, FM 100-102, VIRGIN RADIO, FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215, TALK RADIO, MW 1053, 1089, Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ing Hughes, Rosenary Smith, Susan Thomson, June Grenory and John McNamara.



Men behaving as though the end is Nye

smacked of Simon Nye, its creator, thinking he ought to slip in one with a bit of finality about it - just in case. This, you see, was the last in the current series and with something as enormously successful as Men Behaving Badly you never quite know. Can they be bothered to do it again? Some 13 the answer is yes.

But just in case it isn't, Nye whose writing has been on terrific form in this series — went for the end of another era with this, episode. So a series that began with the improbable ending of one, when Tony and Deborah finally got together, closed with the end-ing of another. The boys sofa, which over the years has become something of a cultural icon, had

Men Behaving Badly writing disgusting jokes; I can't think of anything that threatened the future of the series more seriously. Without a sofa stuffed with two decades of memories and a lot of other things too awful to mention in the cold light of morning, is it possible for men to behave backy at all?

The same thought occurred to bothered to do it again? Some 13 Gary, as he and Tony enjoyed a million of us and one Head of final slouch, perched—for reasons that are difficult to explain—on a that are difficult to explain—on a fairly sensitive part of that famous ly rampant chalk figure. "Have you ever noticed how people over 48 years of age are never comfortable on a sofa, they always want a chair?" Too weird for me, but not of course, for Tony. "Well, they're

This was very nearly the end. By then, we had been treated to a veritable flood of some of the nastiest and furniest lines I'd read to go - it was infested with fleas. for ages, two scenes that will have

brought howis of protest from the RSPCA and the sight of Tony suffering from a harigover so bad it had made him cry. No doubt a few of you will find yourselves in similar circumstances over the coming three weeks. Some will reach for the liver safts, others for the sweet fizzy drink, but none, I trust will follow Tany's example of mixing them together in his

I fthat all sounds to glassily for you. I quite understand. But some of the alternatives reasound last night were pretty be ghastly too, without being furney at all indeed fire only person who might have smiled just 2 line, during last nights Dispatches (Channel 4) was Dr Jack Curning ham, the Agriculture Minister currently enduring a little spot of unpopularity. Banning the bony bits of cows seemed positively restrained after this disconcerting scape (this man is a former



Matthew Bond

reprise of some of the science behind the BSE crisis. if its style was conspiratorial and alarmist (by the end you could have been forgiven for thinking that backing anything that either indeed or based might be a good idea) the content was cleverer than that. We might have started with the old cliche of the lone figure walking through a desolate land-

Assuming Ian McGill was who he says he was and had done what he said he had, he had some deeply disturbing (but not altogether surprising) things to say about the strange pressures that scientists have worked under ever since the first British cow came over all wobbly. Such as why the relevant committee never saw an American research paper that showed monkeys contracted a BSE-like condition after being fed about one ounce of infected material.

Or why the likely link between BSE and another spongiform encephalopathy, in cats, one of McGill's own areas of research, was allegedly censored by government scientists. They deny it. Or why there has been such a long delay in commencing research to discover whether BSE, having come from scrapie-infected sheep in the first place, has now returned.

to the sheep population in its new form. Suddenly that European Union call for a ban on lamb chops didn't seem quite so unreasonable.

it's easy to get carried away, especially in the face of such a well presented argument. But most of the scientists had not - they were alarmed enough to hope that their children cultivated an early taste for chicken, but realistic enough to know that for the rest of us they could do no more than point out that there was an as-yet unquantifiable risk to eating beef and possibly lamb...that we might like to bear in mind while we are shopping. If half what the programme alleged is true, the official inquiry into the handling of the BSE crisis could be dynamite.

n BBC2, Scare Stories: Going Overboard seemed just as cogently argued, at least at first glance. But it is the second glance that is making this debunking of accepted environmental wisdoms that is the probiem (in this case the dumping of waste at sea) but the manner in which it is debunked. What, for example, had all these Greenpeace campaigners been told which persuaded them to contribute to a programme that appeared to show that they were a) cynically manipulative and b) wrong?

There was nothing wrong with deep-sea dumping, we were told by that well known marine scientist, er, Francine Stock. This was the other thing about the programme - highly contentious points were delivered by an un-qualified voice (forgive me Francine, if you really are the Jacques Cousteau of Television Centre) that we associate with objectivity. Scare Stories, however, is provocatively even gloriously, subjective. Nothing wrong with that at all - just don't pretend otherwise.

6.00ssa Business Breakfast (62763) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (1) (50831) 8.00 Good Living (1267218)

9.25 Style Challenge (1246725) 9.50 KBroy (1) (2984015) 10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (i) (1754980) 10.55 The Really Useful Show (1) (8753454) 11.35 Change That (3979305)

12.00 News (1) and weather (9493312) 12.05pm Cati My Bluff (2604305) 12.35 Give Ue A Clue (5377893) 1,00 News (T) and weather (60218) 1.30 Regional News (17446034)

1.40 The Weather Show (86340893) 1.45 Neighboura (T) (68873748) 2.10 Petrocelli (r) (1055638) 2.00 Vets' School Their five years continual study over, the would-be vets take their final exams (r) (5831)

3.30 Playdays (7703102) 3.50 Dinobables (7790636) 4.10 Casper (3325218) 4.35 Record Breakers (2692928) 5.00 Newsround (1) (6488003) 5.10 Blue Peter (2002928) 5.00

(T) (6392251) 5:25 Neighbours (r) (T) (508247) 6,00 News (T) and weather (367) 5:30 Regional Name (947)

an bid

7.00 Weekend Watchdog with Anne Robinson (1) (7812) 7.30 Top of the Pops (T) (831)

8.00 999 Lifesavers A Christmas crisis when festivities were ruined by two medical emergencies; a quad-bike crash that left the teenage rider bleeding to death. Plus: how to spot the tell-tele signs of meningitis (T) (6580)

8,30 Only Fools and Horses: Sie Dogs Lie The Trotters agree to be dog-sitters while Boycie and Madene got on-holiday (r) (T) (2307)

9.30 Hetty Weinthropp Investigates: Serving the Community Hetty agrees to track down the gang of thugs responsible for attacks on local restaurant owners. With Patricia Routledge (T) (990947) The Wogan Years Impressionet Rory Brenner's

debut, and interviews with Robin Williams, Michael Caine, Joan Rivers, Shelley Winters and George Burns to name but a few (1) (192270) WALES: 10.20 For One Night Only, Aled Jones performs a selection of showstopping classics (192270) 10.50 The Wogan Years (277657) 11.20 FILM: Foul Play (653980) 1.15acc Chris de Burgh in 2.20 BBC News 24

10.50 Foul Play (1978) Cornedy adventure, with Goldie Hawn, Chevy Chase, Burgess.

Meredith and Durlay Marchine. woman gets caught up in a plot to murde ehe's in danger — apert from a detective who has fallen hopelessly in love with her. Directed by Colin Fliggins (1) (83338299)

12.45am Chris de Burgh in Concert (436706) 1,45 Weather (7211313) 1.50 BBC News 24

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes Video Plust- and ser years reasonable in the numbers next to each "IV programme listing are Video PlusCode" numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a Video Plust- "he handset. Tap in the Video PlusCode, for the programme you wish to record. Videoplust ("). Pluscode (") and Video Pluscommer are trademarks of

5.00am Social Sciences: A Global Culture? (83744) 6.30 Your Place or Wire? (21831) 7.00 See Hear Breakfast - News (1)

7.15 Teletubbles (r) (2466102) 7.40 Yelde Duck (r) (8826763) 8.05 Smert (r) (1) (6011980) 8.30 William's Wish Wellingtons (r) (2091 183) 8.35 Wishing (r) (9024251) 8.45 The Record (8543580)

9.10 The Fugitive (f) (1) (1826102) 10.00
Telestabbies (12183)
10.30 San Francisco (1935, b/w) Melodrama
Francisco on the lite and loves of highspirited selcon owner Clark Gable, in the period leading up to the devastating 1908 earthquake. Also with Jeanette MacDonald and Sperior Tracy, Directed by W. S. van Dyke II (97563251)

12.20pm Beachgrove. Cuttings. (9495270) 12.30 Working Lunch (28657) 1.00 The Little Polar Bear. (1) (39960676) 1.05 Pings. (1) (39969947) 1.10 The History Hour. Last: In. series. (2437454) 2.10 Going, Going, Gone (64603251) 2.40 News. (1) (7859270)

2.45 Swimming Live coverage of the British Championships from Sheffield (5906299) 3.25 News (7) and weather (9365378) 3.30 The Village (r) (725) 4.00 Ready Steady Cook (560) 4.30 Through the Keyhole (269) 299) 4.55 Esther, record breekes (5070725) 5.30 Today's the Day (116) 6.00 The Simpsons (I) (112473)

6.20 Ster Trek (I) (785725)

7.15 Power Moves Extreme sporting action, featuring rock-climbers and high-speed mountain skiling (869299)
7.20 Human Rights, Homen Wrongs The Impact of multinational comparise on Burma Colombia, West Papus and the Ethi Philippines. Last in series (509305) 7.30 Earth and Life The work of res



War Walks II: Durkirk Richard Holmes walks the beaches at Dunkirk and boards Motor Toroedo Bost 102 with wertime commander Christopher Dreyer to recall the evacuation of British troops in May .1940 (T) (4102):

8.30 Gooff Hamilton's Paradise Gardens (r) (T) (4639). 9.00 Shooting Stars (r) (T) (2589)

9.30 The Fest Show Comedy sketch show (T) 10.00 Have I Got News for You Satrical news quiz (92744) 10.30 Newanight (T) (356909) -

11.15 The A Force The best in black

entertainment (836386) 1:00em Homan Rights, Human Wrongs (r) (4659481) 1.10 VR 5 Scl-fi series (1) (9369874)

1.55 Weather (7215139)

6.80mm GMTV (2752676) 9.25 Supermarket Sweep (T) (1255473). 9.55 Regional News and weather (7008015) 10.00 The Time, the Place (16909) 10.30 This Morning (T) (97590305) 12.20pm Regional News (9499096) 12.30 News (T) and weather (5303218) 12.55 The Gashion Police (T) (5388909) 1.25 Home and Away (73617270)

1:50 Murder, She Wrote: Shooting in Rome (4515367)2.50 WALES: The Pulse (T) (4018305) 2.50 Yan Cart Cook: The Best of Chine

3.20 News (1) and weather (8810283) 3.25 Regional News (T) (9260724) 3.30 Jays* World (2130473) 3.40 Tach (2127909) 3.55 Bernard's Watch (7717305) 4.15 The Best of Hay Arnold

(T) (3319857) 4.40 Fun House (T) (3443780) 5,10 A Country Practice (9372589) 5.40 Name (T) and weather (284763) 6.00 Flome and Away (r) (T) (371760) 6.25 Regional Weather (904541) 6.30 Regional News (1) (265) 7.00 Bruce's Price is Right (1) (2980)

7:30 Coronation Street Sally reaches a painful idecision; and Les has a suggestion to put to Des (1) (299) 8,00 The Bill: Humpty Dumpty Ashton has a bad first day at Sun Hill when he and Stamp see a boy fall trora the roof of a building (1/3) (8928)
8.30 Blind Ment Stap the Vitate Rumours
spread that Phil is secretly counting
Graham's wife (1) (4873)



Penny Smith (9,00pm)

ted Dermot Murnaghan and Penny Smith appeal for public help in tracking down Britain's most wanted 10.00 News (1) and weather (89270)

10.30 Regional News and weather (754657) 10.30 Dying Young (1991) with Julia Roberts and Campbell Scott. A directionless young woltran becomes a nurse to a

young men who is dying of leuksemia. Directed by Joel Schumacher (T) (10034) 12.40am The Paul Ross Show (3311139) 2.10 Quicker Than the Eye (1989) with Ben Gezzara, Mary Crosby and Catherine Jamett. An American magician and his assistant unwittingly become involved in an assassination plot. Directed by

Nicolas Gessner (806145) 3.50 Collins and Maconie's Movie Club (r) (57869481)

4.20 Jones and Jury: Heelih v Lee (r)

4.40 Coach (74280416) 5.00 Coronation Street (r) (1) (44706) 5.30 News (36413)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except: 12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (5389909) 2.50-3.20 Our House (4018305)

5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (9372589) 6.25-7.09 Central News (958744) 10.40 Central Weekend Live (58468541) 12.15am Campus Cops (78459) 12.45 The Paul Ross Show (849416)

2.15 The LADS (17665) 2.45 Box Office America (1912961) 3.10 Baywatch (8519771). 4.00 Central Jobfinder '97 (9986868) 5.20 Asien Eye (4420313)

As HTV West except: 12.20pm-12.30 | Ruminations (9499096) 12.55 Home and Away (5388909) 1.25 Wild About Devon (97438693) 1.55 Westcountry Update (46695960)

2.25-3.20 Stue Heelers (1052541)

5.10-5.40 Home and Away (9372589)

5.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (23102) THE COLUMN

As HTV West except: 12.55-1.25 Shortland Street (5388909) 1.50 Perfectly Pets (94433819) 2.20-3.20 Highway to Heaven (8987251) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (9372589) 6,00-7.00 Meridian Tonight (23102)

5:00em Freescreen (44706)

As HTV West except: 1971 12.55°1:25 What's My Une? (5388909)

2.20-3.20 Highway to Heaven (8987251) 5,10-5.40 Shortland Street (9372589) 6.25-7.00 Anglia News (958744)

Starts: 7.00am The Big Breakfast (43541) 9.00 Something So Right (1250928)

9.25 Film: The Parmer Takes a Wife (85039831) 11.05 The Trouble with Kids (8891305) 11.35 Sophie's Mest Course (3962015)

12.00 Sesame Street (86183) 12.30cm Ricki Lake (13725) 1.00 Slot Meithrin (50550270)

1.15 Slot Synledau Sell (50555725) 1.30 Gardens Without Borders (17420096) 1.45 Racing from Cheltenham (11924725) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (928)

4.30 Deals on Wheels (812) 5.80 5 Pump (9706) 5.30 Countdown (184)

6.00 Newyddion (468164) 6.10 Heno (911742) 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (149947)

7.25 Y Chrb Rygbi (602473) 8.00 Cefn Gwlad (9270) 8.30 Newyddion (8305)

9.00 Pawb all Fam (4299) 10.00 Brookside (655522) 10.35 Friends (264183)

11.05 Rory Bremner — Who Else? (670251) 11.45 Crapston Villas (607560) 12.00 TFI Friday (9720110) 1.05am Film: Rentadick (513077)

CHANNEL 4

5.55cm Sesame Street (55473) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (43541) 9.00 Something So Right (1250928)

9.25 The Farmer Takes a Wife (1935, b/w)
starring Henry Fonda and Janet Geynor.
A romantic comedy about a tarm boy who
wins his girl after proving he is not a
coward. Directed by Victor Flaming (T) (85039831)

11.05 The Trouble with Kids (5/5) (T) (8891305) 11.35 Sophie's Meat Course (if) (1) (3962015) 12.00 Sesame Street (86183) 12.30pm Light Lunch (47021) 1.30 Village Fulf of Cooks, A portrait of a village to the south of Medica (17420096)

1.45 Racing from Cheffenham Recorded coverage of the first three races and live coverage of the 1.55, 2.30, 3.05 and 3.40 races (11924725) 4.00 Fiftsen-to-One (T) (928) 4.30 Countdown (T) (2686367) 4.55 Rickl Lake (T) (5065883) 5.30 Per Rescue (T) (164)

6.00 TFI Friday The guests include Alan Hansen (21744) 7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (363947)

7,55 The Political Slot (823657) 8,00 The Best of Collectors' Lot John McCririck's collection of hats (4/8) (T)

8.30 Brookside Mick has his day in court and Barry issues Lindsey with an ultimatum (1) (8305)

Friends: The One with the Ultimate Fighting Champion Chandler finds his male boss is becoming a little too friendly. Monica's new boyfriend is addicted to fighting. The group overhear a scandalous conver-sation in Central Perk. Billy Crystal and Robin Williams guest star (1) (411589)



Ellen DeGenerus (9.35pm)

9.35 Ellen: The Parent Trap Ellen tries to reconcile her estranged parents. Featuring a guest appearance by Eddle Fisher (1) (201367)

10.00 Frazier: Ask Me No Questions Niles asks his brother's advice (T) (87812) 10.30 Rory Bremmer - Who Else? Satirical political humour (350725)

11.10 Crapston Villas (1) (620251) 11.25 TFI Friday (r) (346367) 12.30am Rentadick (1972) with James Booth. A comedy about an incompetent detective on the trail of stolen

experimental nerve gas. Directed by Jim Clark (412868) 2.10 Springhtli (4661145) 3.15 Wake Up and Live (1937, b/w) A musical satire about an American radio station with Walter Winchell and Ben Bernie.

Directed by Sidney Lanfield (666394) 4.55 American Gambit A chess match between Garry Kasparov and young New Yorkers (r) (1683145) 5.35 Terrytoons (6496023)

CHANNEL 5

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. Viewers with a Videocrypt decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder No 63 are picture: 10.92075 GHz; sound: 7.02 and 7.20 MHz

6.00a 5 News Early (4450763) 7,30 Milkshake! (7730522) 7,35 Kablami (9322015) 8,00 Havakazoo (r) (5708229) 8.30 WideWorld The life and work of Charles

Darwin (1/10) (4921070) 9.00 Espresso (7294015) 10.00 Exclusive (r) (4659454) 10.30 Was it Good for You? (r) (6253314)

11.00 Leeza (3578676) 11.50 Double Espresso (90134947) 12.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (T) (2558706) 12.30pm Fernity Affairs (r) (T) (1750812)

1.00 5 News Update (88092102) 1.05 Sunset Beach (T) (4343034) 2.00 5's Company

3.30 Bridesmaks (1989) with Shelley Hack, Sela Ward, Stephanie Faracy and Jack Coleman, A drama about the relationships and tensions between four women who are reunited for the first time in 20 years when asked to be bridesmalds at a friend's wedding. Lifa

Garrett directs (9747928) 5,20 5's Company — Late Extra (56004909)

5.30 Whittle (T) (4916876) 6.00 100 Per Cent (4913589) 6.30 Family Attains (T) (4997541) 7.00 Name That Tune (5365454)

7.30 Exclusive (4993725) 8.00 Fame and Fortune The titestyle of Engelbert Humperdinck (r) (5374102) '8.30 5 News (T) (5360909)'''



Hume Cronvn and Jessica Tandy (9pm)

9.00 Foxfire (1987) starring Jessica Tandy, Hume Cronyn and John Denver. The story of an Appalachian lamily coming to terms with their roots and their future. Directed by Jud Taylor (32772812)

10.55 La Femme Nikita (6689522) 11.50 Lexx: The Dark Zone Stories Sci-fi 1.40am Go To the Light (1988) staring

Joshua Harris, A drama about a couple whose eight-year-old haemophiliac son is diagnosed with Aids. Directed by Mike Robe (6068619)

3.20 The Outlaw (1943, b/w) starring Jane Flussell, Jack Buetel and Walter Huston. This western about Billy the Kid was made famous by the row over Russell's cleavage. (2286961)

5.15 The Road Country and western music (15556431) 5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (7179752)

• For further listings see

8,00mm Morning Glory (160251) 9,00 Hotel 125746 10,00 Anniner World IB4212 11,20 8.00mm Morning Glovy (160251) 9.00 Hotel (25744) 10.00 Ancorer World (16312) 11.00 Days of Our Lives (91395) 12.00 The Optim World (16314) 2.00 The Great Windrey Show (54096) 1.00pm Garaldo (16314) 2.00 Sely Jessy Rephasi (80744) 3.00 Jenny Joogs (5690) 4.00 The Comm-Windrey Show (75015) 5.50 Star Thift: "Mayaper (4367) 6.00 Showldz Weekly (170137) 6.30 Mented, with Children (1606) 7.00 The Simpsone (6066) 7.00 Page (17013) 8.00 Highlander The Senes (85367) 9.00 Walker, Texas Renger (86554) 11.00 Star Triek, Voyager (85541) 2.00 Lute Show with David Letterman (82936) 1.00mm In the Heaf of the Next (82936) 2.00 Lute In the Heaf of the Next (82936) 2.00 Luce

SKY BOX OFFICE SKY BOX OFFICE,1 (Transponder 26)

SKY BOX OFFICE 2 (Transponder 58)

DO: The Min

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 1 6.10am All Hands on Deck (1991) (73086775) 8.00 Little Glants (1994) (55083693) 9.45 Ohl What a Lovely Win (1969) (56367454) 12.09pm At The Return of Deck (1961) (5630(3) 1.45 The Return of mek (1967) (55303) (1998) (4998) (70) 3.90 onemy Tricitor (1996) (4998) (70) 3.90 butch and Sundanies, The Early Cays. 1979) (21909) 5.30 Hosenburk (1967) 19164) 7.00 Little Glastic (1994) (81725) Butch and Surdanos; The Early Light; (1979) (21909) 5.30 Hometont (1987) (19164) 7.00 Little Guests (1984) (51725) 9.00 Down Periscope (1998) (67097) 11.05 Indecent: Seturiour II (1994) (733725) 12.40 cm Suspicious Agenda (1994) (216771) 2.15 Cardagton (1996) (896139) 4.15 Hometont (1987) (902658)

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 2. 6.00mm Sufferen's Transis (1941) (20812) [5804015] 2.30 Offstram Presentation (1941) (20812) [5804015] 2.30 Offstram Presentation (1988) [59639] [5804015] 2.30 Offstram Presentation (1988) [59639] [5804015] 2.30 Offstram Presentation (1988) [59639] [5804015] 2.30 Offstram Offstram (1988) [59639] [5804015] 2.30 Offstram Offstram (1988) [59639] 2.30 Offstram Offstram (1988) [59639] 2.30 Offstram Offstram (1988) [59639] 2.30 Offstram (1989) [59639] 2

(1985) (33783) 8.00 The Thintic (1996) (653635) 10.35 Primal Pear (1995) (53362183) 12.50em The Bestuded Dis-rise (1985) (132600) 2.35 Dr Jaippi and like hybric (1994) (30323) 4.10 Journey to the Centre of the Earth (1995) (385828) SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm Anne of the Thousand Days

8.00pm WCW June (56876270) 9.00 Operation Cresistem (1985) (56886657) (1.40 There When Streendable (1995)

2.00 M. Po

(1988) (725006(5)-6.25.0-pilemen-Pre-ter Blondes (1983) (2838220) 8.60-The Blondes (1983) (2838220) 8.60-The Blondes (1984) (1984) 17.145 Dog-Sphil (1991) (2828212) 1.20mm Shri (1985) (82082077),4.10 The Matchineter (1988) (2082394) 6.50 Com-

7.00 ms Sporis Carire (21357) 7.20 Wres-ing (65095) 8.30 Sports Carine (41657) a.30 Recing Neire (52909) 2.30 Ampbics (72205) 15006 Golf: Trains Meers Plentori Challerge (\$5009, 1.100 Active), (1982) 12.00 Aerobics (45473) 12.30 pm Projekts (69541) 1.36 Furbor Mundisi (71585) 2.00 World of Saling (2164) 2.30, Trains World Sport (65085) 2.30 Pringists (88201) 4.30, The Project Carine World Sport (60831) 8.00 NRP Challego Bulls V Near York (Active (27867) 10.00 Sports Carine (49102) 11.00 Hold the Back Rage (20015) 12.00 Sports Carine (8836) 1.00 mm Wrasting (5470) 3.00 NRP Challego Bulls V Near York (Active (27867) 10.00 Sports Carine (49102) 11.00 Hold the Back Rage (20015) 12.00 Sports Carine (8836) 1.00 mm Wrasting (5470) 3.00 NRP Challego Salis (5470)

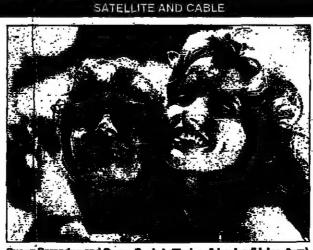
SKY SPORTS 2 7.00em Acrobics (9800218; 7.50 Spots Centre (9880725) 8.00 Redgig Neva (5815860) 8.30 Tight Lines (6445314) 8.30 5015820 4.30 (grt 1280 040514 530 The Right-Cale (5504153) 3.100 Ridel Sports (5696473) 1.200 from Worsen (562507) 22.300m Follows One Follows (562507) 22.300m Follows Powerfolds (5804975) 2.30 - Others Powerfolds (5804975) 3.30 Formula Obs Powerfolds (5804975) 3.30 Formula Obs Powerfolds (5804975) 3.30 Spores Powerfolds 10.00 Trans World Sport (2779522) 11.00 NHL: Powerwest (9686638) 12.00 log-Hockey (4234416) 1.00em Trans World Sport (979482) 2.00 Sports Centre (3596503) 3.00 Footbell (7075481)

SKY SPORTS 3 12.00pm Trans World Sport (81542879)
1.00 Tight Lines (8152808) 2.00 Bobby
Cheskor's Frostball Scrapbook (82612888)
3.30 World Sport Spoed (8365488) 4.00
Trans World Sport (83608305) 5.00 World of
Selking (50639837) 5.30 Olympic Series
(24608612) 6.30 High 5 (24874744) 7.00
MHz Powerweek (5689890) 8.00 Nathalt
England v New Zesland (5888528) 9.00
Sports Unfamiliad (5886548) 10.00 Wreafing (5888541) 12.00 Close EUROSPORT

7.30en UEFA Cup (1593274) 8.40 Siding: Women's World Cup Glear Statom — Live (4575015) 10.00 international Motorsports Magazine (2445) 11.00 Simustosrding (44216) 12.00 Siding: Women's World Cup Glens Statom — Live (5798980) 12.65pm Footbalt: Saudi Arabia v Brazil — Live (72949386) 10.00 Smootbar: German Open — Live (66832) 4.00 Footbalt: Mexico v Australia — Live (66832) 6.00 SM-Jumping v Australia — Live (66832) 6.00 SM-Jumping 10.00 Fro Smootbar: German Open — Live (36296) 9.00 Weightifung (31183) 10.00 FFA Federations Cup (24270) 11.00 Booting: Palatia v N'Gotr (25183) 12.00 Car UK GOLD

UK GOLD

7,00ers Bulseye (4637299) 7.35 Neighbours (4313164) 8.00 Crossrpads (2489473) 8.25 EastEnders (503836) 9.00 The Bill (5234086) 9.20 Howards Wey-(6544636) 10.00 Bess This House (1612299) 10.30 The Sulfers (822380) 11.00 Boon (2669386) 12.00 Crossrpads (46318931) 12.25 Neighbours (4632478) 12.55 EastEnders (223809) 13.00 Hb.Dell (8519763) 2.15 A Word with All (5768980) 2.50 Last of the Summar Wine (579880) 3.30 The Bill (5008740) 4.00 Juliel Brand (38838541) 5.05 EastEnders (1392831) 5.00 Full House (4880305) 0.25 Theris Strombusiness (104700 7.00 Last of the Summar Wine (5378239) 7.45 Are You Being Servid? (618008) 8.28 Keeping the Appearances (448247) 9.00 The Bill (122853) 9.30 Auf Wildersehen, Pet (57633367) 10.35 Comic Stro Presente (22275758) 71.40 Best of Cid Grey Wheele Test (6904102) 12.18em Rock Goss to College (8189390) 1.08 Police (6344888)



GRANADA PLUS 6.00am The Box (8237454) 7.00 Corona fon St (8651909) 7.30 Femilies (8663744) These Webs (4129034) 10.00 Donahus 10005550) 11.00 Hart to Hart (656) 647 12.00 Chronaton St (6082385) 12.30pm. Partiest (255541) 1.00 On the Susem 665380) 1.30 Please St (2556) 2.00 The Good Guya (718902) 3.00 Donahus (7392744) 4.00 Misson: Impossible Type Good City (* 1987 City) Dynamic (* 1992/44)* • ADP ** Namon's * Impossible (* 1971/261)* • 5.00 * Hassell Pire-O (* 1986)* 7 · 6.50 Farrilles (* 1/42/26) • 5.30 Commetter St. (* 1942/26) * 7.40 Bith Date (\$338/27) • 5.00 Commeter St. (* 1942/26) * 1940 Commeter St. (* 1942/26) * (7300753) 9-30 Hale and Pace (2575905) 10.00 Halest Pive-O (4789582) 11.00 Close CARLTION SELECT (cable)

5.00mm Glidlock (85734021) 5.30 Hey Dad

Susan Sarandon and Geena Davis in Thelma & Louise (Living, 9pm) Macone's Move Club (22558680) 11.00 St Beautere (84599270) 12.00 Fast Forward (83863936) 12.30mm Tales of the Unex-pected (54178762) 1.00 Justice (88218697)

> 8.00am Under the Umbreila Tree 6.30 Rosie & Jim 6.45 Warnie the Pooh 7.00 Aladdin 7.30 Tex Avery 8.90 Dinosaurs 8.30 Bonkers 9.00 Gurrani Bears 9.30 Chip 'n' Date 9.45 Mouse & Mole 10.00 Sesame St. 11.00 White the Pool 11.15 Rose & Jim 11.35 Sing Me a Story 12.00 Tota TV 12.30pm It's Fun to Learn 12.45 Winnie the Pool 1.00 Seams St 2.00 Amazing Animals 2.30 Gurnni Beers 3.00 Tale Spin 3.50 Good Troop 4.00 Tron & Pumbas 4.30 Recess 5.00 New Doug 3.30 Pepper Ann 6.00 Nightmans Ned 6.30 Smart Guy 7.00 Wayne Marriesto 7.30 Fill Bern Hits Femily Rebinson 9.00 Second N FOX KIDS NETWORK

DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00mm Deby 6.20 BBy the Cat 7.00 Procchio 7.30 Power Rangers Zeo 8.00 Bestletungs 8.30 Wasted Rider 9.00 Magic Box 9.30 Dudley 10.00 Inspector Gadges 10.30 Pizza Cats 11.00 Sweet Valley High 12.00, Ace Venura 12.30pm Casper 1.00 5.00pm Glotock (66734021) 5.30 ray Jean I (23983185) 6.00 Blocktusters (2885065) 6.30 A Courny Precise (2889067) 7.00 Get Beck (62394265) 7.30 Day Free (28878560 9.00 Blue Heelers (5689050) 9.00 Lovely (5887050) 10.00 Free and 72.00 Acc Venture 12.30 m C

TCC

8.00am Happily Ever After 6.30 Sobby's World 7.00 Spirou 7.30 Dennis the Menace 8.00 Batmen 8.30 Batmen 9.00 Earthworth tznogoud 11.30 Gigentor 12.00 Sprzu 12.30pm Sonic 1.00 Basmen 1.30 AJ's Travellers 2.00 iznogoud 2.30 Fla on 3.00 Sonic 3.30 Earthworn J CARTOON NETWORK

All your fevourie carbons broadcast from 5.00mm to 8.00pm, seven days a week. NICKELODEON

M. Court (Rier Torrateus 6.30 Asahh) Real Monsters 7.00 Hey Arnold 7.30 Rugrats 8.00 Doug 8.30 Neveranding Story 8.00 CSBC 19.00 Wintze's House 10.30 Beber 11.00 Magic School Bus 11.30 Benerals in Pylamas 12.00 Paddington Bear etc. 12.30pm Little Red Tractor etc 1.00 Dr Souss 1.30 Little Bear Stones 2.00 Animal Show 2.30 CSBC 3.30 Roto(Doug 4.00 Annov Seavers 4.30 Rugrats 5.00 Seier Angry Beavers 4:30 Rugrets 5.00 Sister Sister 5:30 Kenen and Kel 6:00 Sabrina the Teerage Witch 6:30 Moesha 7:00 Clost TROUBLE

12.00pm Secsi's Crossing 12.30 Ready or Not 1.00 Medison 1.30 California Dreams 2.00 Saved by the 884 2.30 Swen's Crossing 3.00 No Naled Farmes 3.30 Ready or Not 4.00 Saved by the Bell 4.30 USA high 5.00 Hangsine 5.30 California Orderns 6.00 Black 6.30 Medison 7.00 Hangsine 7.30 USA high 8.00 Close CHALLENGE TV 5,00eet Cross Was 6,30 Move on tio 6,00

Family Fortunes 6.30 Catchrimse 7.15 The \$64,000 Question 6.30 Spit Second 6.30 Karaotse Challenge 9.15 Vinner Takes All 10.00 Treesure Hunt 11.15 Karapke Challenge 12.00 Say the Word 12.30mm BRAVO

To a 2.30 _ 8.00mm The 6-Tel-10.14(777251) 0.00 Thus __ 7.00mm Frederic (00772705 # 30 Delice

of Duty (4095015) 10,00 Red Shoe Dignes (5189550) 10,45 FILM: Forbidden Parody (2709250) 1049 11,22 Carbon Perverly Hits Bordello (1326597) 1.45 Red Shoe Darles (1477329) 2.00 Beverly Hits Bordello (6789413) 2.30 FBLM: An Eye for an Eye (2989228) 4.30 Family Dog (9835987) 5.00 Stansby and Hutch (4600329) PARAMOUNT COMEDY

Cybil (2005) 9.00 Cheers (17015) 9.30 Teal (50893) 10.00 Monty Python's Filegender Zirluz (47744) 11.00 Paramount Presents (12560) 11.30 Ellen (69265) 12.00 THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

8.00pm Sightings (3108270) 8.00 FUM: The Unseen (1981) (12608367) 10.45 The Making of Alien Resumedion g881170\)
11.00 Finday the 13th (6110015) 12.00
Sightings (7660464) 1.00mm The Twilight
Zone (6786077) 1.30 Tales of the Unexpect
of (5500787) 2.00 Dark Shadows
(7622058) 2.30 New Alined Hitchcock 6) 3.00 Friday the 13th (9337597) HOME & LEISURE

9,00mm Joy of Painting 9,30 Gardeners'
Diary 10,00 Garden Parry 10,30 New
Yankee Workshop 11,00 Andy's Angling
Advertures 11,30 Hornstore 12,90 The
Documen 12,30pm Hestoration Game 2,00
Furniture Glys 2,30 Antiques Trail 3,00 DISCOVERY (8230753) 5.30 Beyond 2000 (3003657) 6.00 Unlamed Amezonia (9554015) 7.06 Mysterious Universe (8227299) 7.30 Disetter (3013034) 8.00 Dragons of Kornod

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

(4089725) 9.00 Forensic Detectives (4009589) 10.00 Medical Detectives (6246831) 11.00 Wespons of War (6249893) 12.00 Desman (7312139) (8248831) 11.00 Weepons of War (8248893) 12.00 Dicaman (7312139) 12.30am Roadehow (7095619) 1.00 Dicas-ter (5431526) 1.30 Beyond 2000 (9908023)

tions on Elephants (8958725) 9.00 Dive to the Edge of Creation (8978589) 10.00 The Great Indian Rathway (8971676) 11.00 Wild Country, Wild Horses (5295096) 12.00 Explorer (2923874) 1.00em Close TRAVEL (cable)

12.00pm Roll's Indian Walkabout 1.00 A-2 Med 1.30 Across the Line 2.00 Cities of the World 2.30 Getherings and Celebrat 3.00 Pontrait of Ireland 3.30 Rad Britain 4.30 Greg's World 5.00 Wet and Wik 5.30 Reef World 6.00 The Flavours of THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm The War in the East: The Road to Berlin. Part Two (7123314) 5.00 History Encore (5639560) 7.00 Biography Ava Gerdner (2770251) 8.00 Close CARLTON FOOD (cable)

12.00pm Food Network Daily 12.30 Sopnie's Meet Course 1.00 Food for Thought 1.30 Twelve Chels of Christmes 2.00 Hudson and Halls 2.30 Food Network Daily 3.06 French Lunch 3.30 Grahem LIVING

6.00am Try Living 9.00 Why Me? 9.30 The Gordon Black Show 10.10 Jamy Springer 11.00 The Young and the Resiless 11.55 Brootside 12.25pm Jimmy's 12.55 Cheep Chic 1.25 Rearly, Steady, Cook 2.05 Hart to Harl 3.00 Live at Thee 4.05 Jamy Somnor 5.00 Rolonda 5.50 Cheep Chic 6.20 Ready. Steady, Cook 7.80 Rescue \$11 7.30 Mystenes, Megic and Miracles 8.00 Acren-atin Junkies 9.00 Fit Jit Thetran and Louise 11.00 Sex Life Down Under

ZEE TV 7.00am Jeegran 7.30 Asp Ki Adelai 8,00 ZEE Business News 8.16 ZEE and Music 8.30 Reshat 9.00 Dashi 10.00 Mujha Teleo, Do 10.30 Chalo Cneme 11.00 Zaike Ka Setar 11.30 Hasratain 12.00 Arctic 12.30pm Reshet 1.00 FILM 4.00 Hey He He 4.30 Antalesheri 5.00 ZEE Zone 6.00 Hum Pasnch 6.30 Lehren 7.00 ZEE Top 10 7.30 Mesi Mast Hai Zindagi 8.00 News è 50.

out of Olympics

Imperious Stewart paves way to victory

England beat India by seven

ENGLAND kept their nerve admirably under the lights last night to win the opening game of the Champions Trophy. In a match of 493 runs and 20 wickets they prevailed by seven runs when Matthew eming took his fourth wicket with the third ball of the last over. It was awfully tense stuff towards the end, and, reassuringly, English heads and

They earned their win the way because Sachin Tendulkar, the little Indian master, had to be dynamited from the crease. He had overcome a poor start by his am and reduced the target to 19 from three overs, taking his own score to within nine runs of a hundred, when he left his crease to attack Fleming. missed a ball the bowler had drifted a shade wider, and was marooned when Alec Stewart accomplished a brisk stump-

In that brief, shining mo-

ment lay the most wonderful story. Fleming, playing his first one-day international the day before his 33rd birthday, had old-headed Tendulkar, who has played 168 of these games and made a hundred in 12 of them. It was fitting, too, for Fleming had bowled quite superbly at the death.

Adam Hollioake obviously knew his man because he entrusted Fleming with the task of bowling his ten overs straight through at the end of the innings. The Kent allrounder has earned an enviable reputation for keeping his wits about him in such situations but, with Tendulkar and Jadeja going well together, it was asking a lot. That he went on to win the game, taking four for 45, justified his

"He was incredibly cool," Hollioake said. To bowl ten overs off the reel like that on He admitted that he had considered taking Fleming off after his third over, but must

no place for faint hearts and Fleming, the old Etonian and former Army captain, proved It was a marvellous one-day

game, distinguished by Stewart's century as well as Tendulkar's brilliance. There was some good fielding from both sides and some pretty sloppy batting. England, who began the last ten overs of their innings with 211 on the hoard and seven wickets in hand, were bowled out for 250 when they should have touched 300. After Stewart drove a catch to extra cover the next six batsmen failed to

as an opening batsman can in limited overs cricket. From the start he struck the ball crisply. ets and, by scoring his hundred at better than a run a ball, he did more than anchor the innings. It was his best score in 91 one-day internationals and, oddly enough, only his second hundred. Knight, preferred to Ben

reach double figures. Stewart batted about as well After a ferocious start to their innings, when Ganguly and Karim set about the bowling with a will, India also lost their way when four wickets went down for 14 runs. Ealham took two of them, hitting Ganguly's stumps and fooling Sidhu with a slower hall. Hollioake was also successful with his slower ball, or rather, one of his many slower

> England almost claimed a fifth wicket when Stewart, collecting Hick's return from square leg, relayed the ball to Ealham at the bowler's end but Tendulkar, according to the third umpire, had made his ground. He proceeded to play the kind of innings that comes from long and thorough practice. There were only three boundaries in his ifty but all the time he moved the ball round the field with

Hick, without ever looking

commanding, took the score past 200. Stewart went to his

century in the 34th over, with a six and nine fours, but after

was a peculiar collapse.
India certainly bowled well
and fielded tidily, but En-

muddled. Thorpe was hidden

wicket, behind Ealham, and

the captain confessed later

grace and purpos Together with Jadeja, h brought the target down to 69 from ten overs before Thorpe's catch at mid-wicket, gave Fleming his first wicket. Two Then Kumble was run out from point by Knight but ently unshiftable. But Fleming dared to deceive him outside off stump and the little man was gone. Mark Waugh had done him the same way in a World Cup match at Bombay last year, when he was

Headley bowled Srinath and Fleming, proud and distinctly happy, castled Chauhan to give England a most

stumped off a wide



wicketkeeper, gasps at the power of another stunning forcing stroke from Stewart

SCOREBOARD FROM SHARJAH

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Hollioake shows delight

F

ENGLAND	(1 six, 1 tour; 7-0-26-1, 2-0-8-0); Yenduliter
Brown c Genguly b Kuruntile18	4-0-24-0 (3 tours; one apell).
5 balls, 2 louis)	Score after 15 overs: 79-1
Servert c Azharuddin b Kumbia 118	INDIA
	tS S Karim c Croft b Headley29
11 bells, 1 six, 9 fours) Knight o Kumble b Chauhun42	(34 balls, 5 lours)
	S C Genguly b Eathern
0 bells, 1 six; 2 tours)	tet hate 4 lours
Hick b Kuruvilla	NS Sidhu c Hollionie t Enham
2 balls, 1 six, 2 lours)	(13 balls)
Hollooke b Kuruvilla4	*S R Tendulitar at Stewart b Pleming91
(balls)	(87 balls, 2 shes, 4 fours)
Eathern run out (Tenduties)	M Acherudain a Headley & Hollonke3
6 balls)	(19 belst)
Thorpe run out (Jedeja)3	A Jadeis c Thomps b Fleming
balki	669 balls, 1 tour)
Fleming a Karim b Schaith	R R Shoth low b Fleming
6 belis)	(14 balls, 1 ax)
Brown a Tenduliur b Stimeth	A Kurable run out (Knists)
1 belisi	Ci bales
8 Croft o Kuruwilla b Srimeth	R K Cheuhan b Flaming
bels, 1 lour)	(12 halfs)

6-218 (Eathern 2), 7-222 (Estheim 6), 8-23 (Brown 1), 9-248 (Brown 6). BCM/LING: Schedt 8.5-0-37-3 (2 fours 6-0-27-0, 2-5-0-10-3); Kurruffe, 10-0-51-4 (Brown 1), 10-1-3-2 (Kurnitie 10-0-53-1 (5 fours; 4-0-21-0, 3-0 Crauran 3, 922 (Januara 7).

BOWLING: D R Brown 7-0-44-0 (e.; 1 six, 5 sours, 5-0-30-0, 2-0-14-0); Hendley 9-0-38-2 (eb.3, w. 1; 3 sours; 7-0-25-1, 2-0-12-1);

Estiman 10-0-43-2 (w. 1; 3 sours; care spath; Holisoste 9-1-38-1 († six, 2 sours; 6-1-25-1);

1-0-12-0); Crost 5-0-32-0 († six, 1 sours one spath; Hours one spath; Hours

Score after 15 overs: 68-3. Match award; A J Stawart. Umpires: S A Buckeror (West Indies) and K T Francis (Sri Laries), Third umpire: B C Cooray (Sri Laries), Referee; P J P Burge (Australia).

Compiled by Bill Frindell / Cricinto

By the end of a long night, though, he looked like a king

David Beckham, in particular,

caught the eye.

Even in defeat, the incompa-

rable Zinedine Zidane noted

their stature. "They are more formidable now." he said.

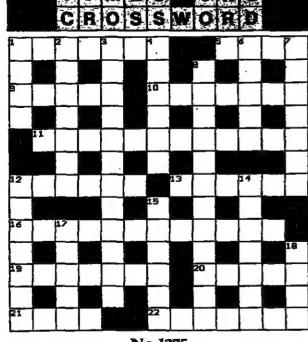
"They are a real threat in this

competition. They are develop-

ing their younger players and

ing through a back door.

Revitalised Juventus threaten to haunt Ferguson's dreams



No 1275

ACROSS

- I Old and valuable (7) 5 Slightly wet (4)
- 10 Defeat (7) 11 Devon delicacy (7,5) 12 Gen. killed at Khartoum: setter, some riots (6)
- 13 Dayy Jones's locker (6) 16 Pull the other one! (4,5,3) 19 Magnify (7)
- 20 A fish; super! (slang) (5)
- E 21 Dispatch (4) 22 Percy Bysshe — (7)
- 1 Committed friend (4) 2 Minnow (7) 3 ? (8.4)

4 Avoid (6)

- 6 Treat hadly; swear at (5) 7 Egyptian monument, illegal sort of seiling (7) 8 Intolerable (12) 12 Am. rodents; trees for Ark
- 14 John k of Scotland; Oxford college (7)
- 15 A way out (6)
- 17 C2 Greek physician (5) 18 Heavy soil; human materi-

SOLUTION TO NO 1274 ACROSS: 1 Deliberate 7 Swindle 8 Scrub 10 Everest 11 Tools 12 Stable 15 Tables 17 Byron 18 Bashful 21 Edict 22 Emotive 23 Investment DOWN: 1 Drive 2 Ledge 3 Bleats 4 Rosetta 5 Turmoil

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played down the need to knock out Juventus. He had backed if they continue to grow at the up his words by resting Andy Cole and Nicky Butt rather present rate, they will be among the best teams in than risking them. Putting the Europe. We could meet them European Cup Champions' in the final but I hope they do not get there. I hope we can avoid them. They are danger-League tie in the Stadio delle Alni on Wednesday firmly in its place, he said that he United's loss, amid the ee important games this month. rie, freezing mists that swirled

around the vast steel bowl of a

stadium, and the last-gasp surrounded by courtiers who entry of Juventus into the have seen an assassin sneakquarter-finals as one of two best losers, could, however, Manchester United were far have even more far-reaching from their best in the 1-0 defeat consequences than the ones in Turin. The job, the "hard Ferguson was so keen to part". as Ferguson called it, had already been done when they qualified for the quarter-finals. Even though they were guard against. There are other teams who are stronger now perhaps, but come April and the semi-finals, Juventus may outplayed by the Italians, they have grown back into the team still showed enough skill and panache to suggest that if the their great dream of lifting the stakes were higher, they could increase the tempo. The passing and the assuredness of

They will, at least, be kept apart in the draw on Wednesday in Geneva. The rules are not quite as labyrnthine as for the World Cup and the first principle of the draw is that, at this stage, both of the runners-up will be kept apart from the teams that

Thus, United will not be

able to play Juventus, nor AS Monaco face Bayer Leverkusen. Leverkusen and Juventus will be placed in one pot the six group winners in another. The two best losers will be drawn first, followed by their opponents. If United get ventus, they will be move on to Leverkusen. After the runners-up have discovered their partners, the rest will be a free draw.

Gost standard Senior citizens Radical plans

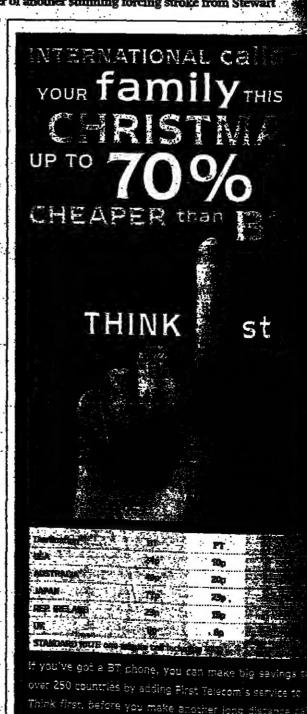
In the semi-finals, though, there will be nothing to stop the two teams meeting and United coming face to face with a club whose desting they held in their hands on Wednesday night. Juventus will be stronger by April, much stron-Alessandro del Piero and Nicola Amoruso may all be back by then and, just as significantly, their ranks will also have been bolstered by the arrival of Edgar Davids, the Holland midfielder recently signed from AC Milan:

United are forming into such a formidable unit now, growing in composure and proaching team telepathy, that they will be capable of dismissing such a threat with

their present squad. Certainly, Ferguson shows every sign of being happy with what he has got, eschewing the chance to bid for Davids, showing no apparent interest in AC Milan's Patrick Kluivert and hinting that he has grown tired of the chase for Marcelo Salas, the Chile internation-

His philosophy is blissfully straightforward: he believes that United are good enough to beat any of the remaining teams, so why bother about whether Juventus are in or out? To a degree, he is right, and it is refreshing to hear the coach of a British team so sure of his team's supremacy.

The Juventus we saw on Wednesday night might not have been good enough to beat United in full flight. The only problem, the only nagging fear, is that when April arrives, a new, improved Juventus may have sprouted from the vulnerable, desperate band of players that once lay at United's mercy.



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